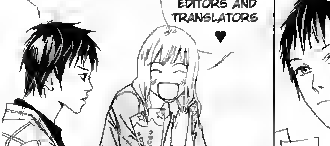

Evil Flowers needs
~ Scanners
~ Experienced Editors
~ J/C/K Translators
~ QC-ers

If you enjoyed this title please support the mangaka and buy this manga!
Evil Flowers

Merry Christmas
Evil Flowers!
In this small card I would like
to show my appreciation to all
members from our staff. We are not
many, but we do our best to bring
you as many releases as we can

Visit us at: http://evilflowers.com

~
Thank you
Evil Flowers' Staff!
I thank you for always being there for the group. A big hug for all our old staff that had been doing there best to bring a lot of releases to everyone. And a warm welcome to all our new members that joined recently and offered they're help.
I wish you all the luck in the world, a Merry Christmas and a wonderful day!
~

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short SUNZEN!™

1

Susugi Sakurai

TOKYOPOP

short SUNZEN!

VOLUME 1
BY SUSUGI SAKURAI

short SUNZEN!

VOLUME 1
BY SUSUGI SAKURAI

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

FIGHT!
FIGHT!
FIGHT!
UH-OH SENDO YOU'D BETTER GET OUT THERE
IT'S GETTING UGLY.
WHAT?
THE OKONOMIYAKI IS GONNA BURN IF YOU DON'T PAY ATTENTION, POPS.
LET ME GUESS. THEY'RE FROM YOUR SCHOOL, RIGHT?
COULD WE GO A DAY WITHOUT YOU KIDS BEING NOISY?
BAM
Hurry and put on the toppings!
Let's see! Let's see!
WHAM
Oh wow, it's right there!
OSC-DIS

Note: See translator's notes, page 194

MY NAME IS SATSUKI KUROKAWA.
I'VE BEEN GOING TO THE NOTORIOUS TAMA HIGH FOR A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR NOW.
THANKS TO THAT, PEOPLE NOW SAY I'M A HOOLIGAN WITH NO RESPECT FOR RULES
They called you that long before.
LOBSTER LOCK! ♡
I WAS SAVING A RICH GIRL FROM TWO PINHEADS THAT JUST COULDN'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER
BUT IF PEOPLE SAW ME TODAY THEY MIGHT THINK DIFFERENTLY.
All right! You got em!
SHE'S PROBABLY THE ONE THAT STARTED IT.
SHE'S AT IT AGAIN?!
IS SHE GETTING BEAT UP?
UM... NO
Wow, amazing!

DOESN'T THAT SOUND LIKE FUN?
CRASH ME
SHORT SUNZEN
すんぜん
ショート寸前☆

THERE
AND NOW FOR MY ARM CRUSHING REVERSE CROSS
There's more?!
Let's FLIP ya
WAIT
KARAOKE
from both
SENDO 2
GRR
NO THANKS
Cover Your Legs
FINE BY ME AND EVEN IF WE GET ARRESTED WE'VE GOT THE EXCUSE THAT WE'RE SAVING SOMEONE
You're out of breath
DID YOU COME TO JOIN, TOO?
Hah
DON'T START FIGHTS WHEN I'M NOT AROUND, PLEASE
WHY?
DON'T YOU KNOW?!

UM...
FORGET IT!
THAT'S WHY I INVITED YOU TO JOIN ME
AFRAID YOU'LL MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN?!
doesn't know
SQUEEZE
THERE WAS NO NEED TO HURT THEM!
AND FURTHERMORE!
TALK WITH ME?
THERE IS SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT I NEED TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT PRIVATELY
Grr
My name is Kyoko
A RICH GIRL FROM NARUJO SAYS SHE WANTS TO TALK TO ME ALONE
WOW DID YOU HEAR THAT SENDO?
Then you and I can get more intimate...
"HOLD IT SATSUKI!"
Uh Um
SOMEWHERE WHERE WE CAN BE ALONE?
WELL THEN KYOKO CHAN, SHALL WE HEAD...

Urk.
Don't stare at me
YOU'RE JEALOUS, AREN'T YOU?
SO I WAS RIGHT
DON'T WORRY
SENDO HAS NEVER BEATEN ME AT ARM WRESTLING
UM...
YOU GIRLS GO GET LOVEY DOVEY SOMEPLACE ELSE!
Shut up!!
IN THAT CASE, LET'S GO KYOKO
BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT ME OFF
FINE
YOU WANNA GET INTIMATE WITH KYOKO-CHAN TOO?!
WHAT?
Love Must Be Fought For

UM, MISS
I THINK SOMEDAY IT WOULD BE GOOD
FOR YOU TO HAVE A NICE LONG TALK WITH HIM
HUH?!
YOU'RE ASKING FOR PROBLEMS BY NOT BEING HONEST ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS
Had her arm around her
Ya know?
IT MAKES SENSE THAT SHE'D SWING THAT WAY!
Girl on girl action
We see each other every day 'cause our classes are next door to each other. We don't need to talk, we talk every day
Ha ha ha!
IS THAT A PROBLEM FOR YOU?
Or are you jealous?
THAT DOESN'T SOUND GOOD FOR YOU, SENDO
WELL, I CAN'T IMAGINE KUROKAWA GETTING CLOSE TO A GUY ANYWAYS
JUST TELL HER NOT TO LEAD YOU ON. IT'S NOT HARD.
Watched the whole thing
SHE'D JUST LAUGH AT ME IF I TOLD HER.
Satsuki, I mean.
Hmm.
WELL, SOME OKONOMIYAKI OUGHT TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER.

RESTROOM
HOW'S IT GOING KYOKO-CHAN?
CAN YOU GET THEM OFF?
Y-YES
It's cramped in here, but I'm managing
おそる
MY UNIFORM'S HANGING OVER THE STALL. JUST GRAB IT, OKAY?
おそる
ALL RIGHT
(Western Style Toilet)
YOU KNOW I'M CURIOUS...
...WHY DO YOU WANT TO WEAR A TAMA HIGH UNIFORM.
YOU WOULDN'T!
WHAT RE YOU GONNA DO IF I RUN OFF WITH YOUR CLOTHES HM?
You never know
And sell them off
Ouch!
WHAT'S WITH ↓ THAT BRAT?
DUNNO BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY...
...WE BETTER HURRY SHE'S GETTING AWAY
駅

AND THE QUALITY IS IMMEDIATELY APPARENT IN THE UNIFORMS.
FOR US, IT'S THAT NARUJO UNIFORM OF YOURS THAT EVERYONE WANTS TO WEAR
AFTER ALL, NARUMI WOMEN'S ACADEMY IS A FAMOUS SCHOOL FOR WEALTHY GIRLS
Pure white
Navy blue
Plaid
He he he!
BUT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO WEAR A TAMAZUKA HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM
WHAT A WEIRD THING TO SAY
C'MON, THIS UGLY THING?
(Satsuki's hemmed hers short)
BEATS ME WHY SHE WANTS TO DO THIS, BUT
Yeah, I stuck it in one of the pockets
Wasn't there a ribbon?
Fold it at the waist
The skirt is too long
IT SEEMS SHE'S A FRESHMAN AT NARUJO'S HIGH SCHOOL. HOW CUTE.
A lady is a lady no matter what she wears
IT OUGHT TO BE FUN ♡
WOW.
I LOOK SO RESPECTABLE
Heh!
カチャ

Let's see here...
Just leave it to me!
C'MON LET'S SWITCH HAIRSTYLES TOO.
WHAT?
End over end
NO ONE AT MY SCHOOL WOULD WEAR BRAIDS LIKE THIS
I SEE.
Last minute check...
Lend me your ribbon, kay?
OKAY, THEN.
This time for sure...
Trade Complete
WE'LL MEET AT SEVEN P.M., THREE HOURS FROM NOW, HERE IN FRONT OF THE STATION.
Pinky swear!
NOW THEN...

...WHAT SHALL I DO FOR FUN?
SHE'S FROM NARUJO! NARUJO!
first, how about a stroll past Tama High?
TALK ABOUT A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE, THOUGH
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN ONE UP CLOSE.
Ouch!
Yeesh, they're so quick to get violent around here
NO ONE SEEMS TO QUESTION ME AT ALL
MAYBE I OUGHT TO HAM IT UP A BIT.
Fabulous!
Guys are such jerks!
Loud mouths
But she certainly is pretty

WIPE
THIS WON'T DO
SINCE I'M WEARING THIS UNIFORM...
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHY'S A RICH GIRL WANDERING AROUND A PLACE LIKE THIS?
Fried
TAKO
Fried
TAKO
YAKI
BEER
LURED IN BY THE SMELL.
Note See page 194
I WONDER IF NARUJO GIRLS FEEL THIS WAY ALL THE TIME.
IT MAKES ME WANT TO ACT THE SAME WAY.
Blume
Skins
UM... WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
WHICH FLOWERS DO YOU THINK SUIT ME?
...I REALLY OUGHT TO GO SOMEPLACE I WOULDN'T NORMALLY FIT IN.
Well then, I'll take one of these.
Right!
Uh, right!
And that one over there.
This one, that one...
W-WELCOME!
Shall I tie a ribbon around it?!
Free of charge, of course!
Thank you very much!
IT SURE IS NICE BEING TREATED SO NICELY BY PEOPLE
WOW

GOAISATSU
Nice to meet you. I'm Sayagi Sakuma. I hear I'll have a lot of face time with this piece. It's fairly free to start in a week's time. I immediately went ahead and tried out something I like.
Those of you wondering what the heck this is about should go to the next insert
KA-CHING
THAT WILL BE 500 YEN.
OH NO! I LEFT MY WALLET AND TRAIN TICKET IN MY UNIFORM
SMILE
HUH?
PUT IT ON MY TAB
I guess it's not gonna work after all
A WEALTHY GIRL WANTS A TAB?
AH!

うなぎ
HI.
WHOA!
WHAT?
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU-
In a foul mood
AYA-CHAN
Aya Sendo = Aya-chan
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' IN THAT GETUP SATSUKI?
I TRADED WITH KYOKO-CHAN
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THIS FLOWER SUITS ME, DOESN'T IT?
IF YOU BUY IT FOR ME I'LL WALK AROUND WITH YOU WHILE I'M IN THIS OUTFIT
Angelic Voice
Sendo Sendo
FOR WITHER AGAIN SHALL'T THOU HAVE A CHANCE...
...TO WALK AROUND WITH A NARUJO GIRL?
WHAT THE HECK IS SHE SAYING?
AND I DON'T WANT TO MAKE NARUJO GIRLS LOOK BAD BY USING A TAB.
THAT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE A MAN, WON'T IT?
You were going to use a tab?

BUT AT ANY RATE..
SENDO
SENDO?
HERE'S MONEY FOR THAT FLOWER
He's seriously buying it for me
NARUJO GIRLS HAVE A STRONG POWER OVER MEN.
WHY IS HE PAYING?
Obviously a first-time customer
SHE REALLY IS AMAZINGLY CUTE
I can't look straight at her
DON'T YOU
?
THINK YOU SHOULD DO MORE THAN WALKING BESIDE ME?
HUH?!
LIKE HOLD HANDS?
mumble
HOW CAN I KEEP MY PROMISE IF YOU KEEP WALKING AHEAD LIKE THAT?
DAMN
Hmph.

SHOW-OFF
Er are you just being greedy?
OH, I GET IT!
YOU WANNA WALK ARM IN ARM?
BUT NO
YOU REEK OF CIGARETTES
The smell makes me sick
AND I DON'T SMOKE
LOOK AT IT
IT'S SO WHITE AND PRETTY, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO DO MY BEST TO KEEP IT CLEAN
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY THIS UNIFORM IS BORROWED
AND YOU KNOW HOW WELL BEHAVED I NORMALLY AM, RIGHT?

SNAG!
I should stop freaking...
Uh?
SO HELP ME TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT.
Hehe, you put it that way...
I UNDERSTAND.
He looks like a puppy that left his home.
BUT YOU CAN HOLD MY HAND
CAUSE IT'S MINE

I'M NOT LETTING GO
All right
Hiyo!
I adore my work
S-SORRY
Yo could head start
SENDO DO YOU THINK YOU COULD LOOSEN UP A BIT? EVEN I CAN'T HANDLE YOUR IRON GRIP
OUCH!
SQUEEZE
FIRM
SATSUKI TOUGHER! NEXT
WELL, FOR THE TIME BEING.
DAMN, I'M ENVIOUS
Everything that everyone is talking
WHY'S HE WITH A NARUJO GIRL?
HEY, ISN'T THAT SENDO CLASS 8?
I can't read a straight face...
Slice em dice em...
Put him in a stew
Okay!
Now it's your turn!
Don't sing that gross song out loud
Oh!
SENDO MUST BE FORCING HER TO WALK WITH HIM
Hongi no comments are better not heard
HEY, OVER THERE!
?!
Nyah
WHAT ABOUT THE DIGNITY OF NARUJO?!
I'LL STROLL AROUND A BIT WITH HIM.
..THEN WHEN A GOOD OPPORTUNITY ARISES I'LL SAY GOODBYE

SENDO, WE'VE GOTTA LOOK MORE INTIMATE AS WE WALK! WE'RE OBVIOUSLY NOT CONVINCING ENOUGH
You're making people think you're a bad guy!
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING SO UPSET FOR?
IT JUST PISSES ME OFF BECAUSE YOU'VE DONE NOTHING WRONG YOU EVEN BOUGHT ME A FLOWER!
C'MON!
LET'S SHOW OFF SOME MORE!
WE WALKED ALL OVER
A proper young woman doesn't waste her money buying junk food on her way home!!
I have to pay again?!
Sendo treat me to some takoyaki
AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT, SENDO?
I only have two hands...
I guess it can't be helped
SENDO'S NEVER LET GO OF MY HAND
He's holding the food
Say "Aaah"
He's also feeding me!
HE'S CLINGING TO ME
LIKE A BABY.
How cute...

IT'S KINDA FUN HAVING HIM HOLD MY HAND
I WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE IT'S SOMETHING WE NORMALLY DON'T DO
SENDO
THE TIME
HM?
IT'S 6:40, RIGHT NOW
UM I'M NOT ASKING YOU THE TIME
I'M SAYING IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GO
BECAUSE
I'VE GOTTA RETURN THE UNIFORM
WHERE?
SQUEEZE
THE STATION
I'M HEADED THERE TOO, SO I'LL GO WITH YOU
OH REALLY?
He made that p of course

SENDO, YOU DON'T TAKE THE TRAIN TO SCHOOL, DO YOU?
I NEED TO FIND A GOOD WAY TO LET GO OF HIS HAND...
WHOOPS
Act shy walks to school
DON'T BE SO NOSY
I JUST WANTED TO SEE A REAL RICH GIRL
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT
SO THAT'S WHY YOU BARELY LOOKED AT ME
Ugh
...IF YOU WANTED TO SEE HER YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME SO IN THE FIRST PLACE, WHEN YOU SOUGHT ME THE FLOWER.
WELL, THEN...
I SEE.
THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN WITH ME ALL THIS TIME?
SO THAT'S IT
Huh?!
Ha ha ha!
YOU CAN'T BEAT THE REAL THING EH?

OKAY
HE MAY HAVE WALKED WITH ME WHILE I WORE THIS...
BUT INSIDE I'M STILL ONLY A TAMA GIRL
WAIT FOR ME IN FRONT OF THE STATION AFTER SEVEN P.M.
AND AFTER WE'RE DONE EXCHANGING UNIFORMS, I'LL SHOW YOU A REAL RICH GIRL
A REWARD FOR ALL YOUR TROUBLES?
.....
.....
MY RIGHT HAND FEELS LONELY NOW THAT IT'S EMPTY.
HERE SHOULD BE FAR ENOUGH
SEE YA
WAIT FOR ME, KAY?
switched the flower to her right hand for the time being

YOINK
What?
WE FINALLY FOUND YOU
?!
Pant
Pant
OH.
FLUTTER
THIS TIME YOU'D BETTER COME QUIETLY
BECAUSE HE HELD MY HAND SO TIGHTLY
AND ACTED SO WEIRD
I FEEL WEIRD, TOO.
THESE FEELINGS

AAAAAH!
What?
Petrified
WHAT THE? YOU AGAIN?
Yeah! Up close you can tell her hair is dyed brown
THAT'S MY LINE!
Grr!
Damn that scared me
DID YOU KILL SOME GIRL AND TAKE HER UNIFORM?
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
Here goes!
YES, IT IS!
NOBODY RUBS THEIR GREASY CHEEKS ON THIS UNIFORM!

WHOOSH
THE FLOWER
He's not listening
SENDO!
Police!
Somebody help!
You're going to get
YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.
STAY BACK OR YOU'LL GET BLOOD ON THE UNIFORM
BEFORE SOMEONE CALLS THE COPS
HAND HIM OVER, TOO.
HUH?!
Double kick!
How awful
Eek!
HUH?!
YEAH.
THEY DID SOMETHING TO YOU RIGHT?
He hit me twice!
I heard you scream
So I was gonna beat 'em

...PLEASE, RETURN HER TO US!!
HUH?!
WAIT!
I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY FOR WHAT I DID!
...LET ME GET AT LEAST ONE SHOT IN.
Here goes
I surrender my life!
Ack
SO
...KYOKO-CHAN'S FATHER
Blah, blah
Like I care
...WE HAD JUST LOCATED HER AND WERE ABOUT TO BRING HER BACK WHEN YOU TWO INTERFERED
Secret Rehabilitation
Please...wait patiently
SHE DISAPPEARED WHILE THE CAR WAS WAITING FOR THE LIGHT TO CHANGE AT THE INTERSECTION IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN STATION...
ACCORDING TO THEIR STORY IT SEEMS THAT THEY WORK FOR
AND THEN...
AH.
MISS!
KYOKO-CHAN.
OH MISS! WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?
ガバッ
What do you mean by that?
THIS IS PERFECT. I HAVE SO MANY GIFTS. I CAN'T HOLD THEM ANY LONGER.
Please take care!
Huh?
Tissues?
Oh, and Sandra-kun too.

SHE THEN GAVE HER SIDE OF THE STORY.
WELL, YOU INFORMED ME, WHILE WE WERE IN THE CAR THAT WE WERE HEADED TO MY MARRIAGE MEETING
IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST
TWIST
TWIST
きっぱり
Miss?
WELL, IT'D TAKE A LOT OF GUTS TO WEAR THAT UNIFORM EVERY DAY
Unnecessarily strong
SHE'S STRONG
I'll bring the car around
Yes, yes, I'm sorry I will return with you.
You've put us in a terrible position
Unraveling her hair
OH, YEAH! GUESS WHY SHE WANTED TO BORROW MY UNIFORM
I ASKED WHILE WE WERE GETTING CHANGED IT SEEMS A DISOWNED COUSIN OF HERS IS A TEACHER THERE
I can finally fit my...
AS FOR ME, I GUESS I'M MORE COMFORTABLE IN THIS ONE AFTER ALL
Water station entrance
Saw the teacher! I wonder if she's feeling...
Hair is still wavy from the braid
SHE WANTED TO SEE HIM.

I WONDER IF THAT MEANS SHE LIKES HIM.
MY MOM AND DAD SAY THEY ELOPED.
I THINK IT'D TAKE A LOT OF GUTS TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT
I'M ENVIOUS OF THEM, CAUSE I ALWAYS FEEL VERY PASSIONATE BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH IT
.....
I'M VERY PASSIONATE, TOO.
YEAH
I COULD TELL THAT FROM HOLDING YOUR HAND TODAY
AND
I GOT TO THINKING THAT THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS TO USE MY HANDS TOO
AND IT'S KINDA NICE TO HAVE SOME OPTIONS.
BUT THAT'S JUST ME. WHAT ABOUT YOU?

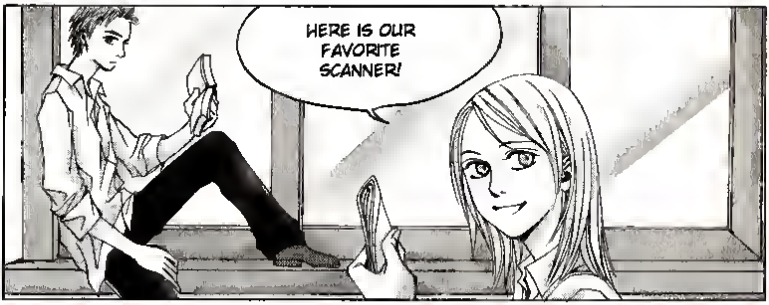
本の森
SENDO YOU GET TO TAKE A RIDE WITH KYOKO-CHAN.
I'M FINE HERE SO YOU—
Ha ha ha!
OR CAN'T YOU TALK TO ME NOW THAT I'M NOT IN THE NARUJO UNIFORM?
Heh
Oh
CAN WE GIVE YOU TWO A RIDE?
I THINK ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT
ALL THE TIME.

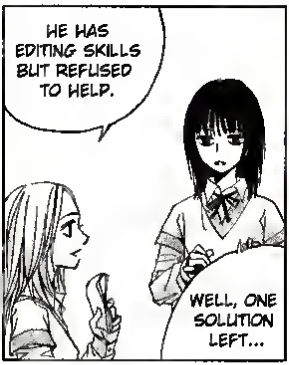
I HATE TO ADMIT IT BUT...
...THOSE WORDS HAD A BIG AFFECT ON ME
HOW MORTIFYING
ALL RIGHTY THEN...
...EVERYTHING I'M WEARING BELONGS TO ME NOW
WHY DON'T WE GO ON ANOTHER WALK THIS TIME ARM IN ARM? ♡
Her sultry voice
!
HOW'S THIS?

SHORT SUNZEN!
IT'S SPRING
THIS IS THE MOST NOTORIOUS SCHOOL IN KANSAI TAMAZUKA HIGH SCHOOL
AND THE NOISIEST CORNER IN IT
1-6
NEXT CONTESTANT!
All right, come on!
Get ready
BEGIN ON READY-SET-GO
READY
All right
A HANDS DOWN VICTORY FOR SATSUKI KUROKAWA!
Yippee!
GRR! THE BOYS HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT?
Later
Yikes!

Female Domination
HOORAY!
WHO SUGGESTED WE ALLOW GIRLS TO COMPETE IN THE TAMA HIGH ARM WRESTLING COMPETITION?
WELL IT'S SOMETHING THE BOYS WOULD NORMALLY WIN, YA KNOW?
NO WONDER THE GIRLS AGREED
WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
IT'S NOT OVER YET!
WITH THIS THE GIRLS TAKE THE WINDOW SEATS!
No whining
K-kabuo-san, you're great!
Three cheers for Satsuki-chan
You're broken
HEY! YOU HAVEN'T FACED ALL OF US YET
THERE'S STILL SENDO LEFT
SENDO?
Satsuki-chan! Satsuki-chan!
HE SITS IN THE SEAT NEXT TO YOURS
AH!
THE GUY WHO GOT SUSPENDED FOR GETTING INTO A FIGHT WITH SOME UPPERCLASSMEN THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
REALLY? WHEN'S HE COMING BACK TO CLASS?
WHAT?! I didn't know about that!
HE WAS SUSPENDED FOR TWO WEEKS I THINK
WHOA!
Weren't you napping on the roof then?

THEN HE'S COMING BACK TODAY!!
THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW THE TWO FIRST MET.
Today? But it's already almost seconds pers
ショート
すんぜん
SHORT SUNZEN!





Join Evil flowers!!!

THEN HE'S COMING BACK TODAY!!
THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW THE TWO FIRST MET.
Today? But it's already almost seconds pers
ショート
すんぜん
SHORT SUNZEN!

Ech...
AM I CATCHING A COLD?
ACHOO!
I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS
AYA SENDO ON HIS FIRST DAY BACK FROM SUSPENSION
HIS HIGH SCHOOL LIFE IS JUST NOW STARTING
1-6
LONG TIME NO SEE, SCHOOL
SENDO, I CHALLENGE YOU!!

.....
WHO THE HECK'RE YOU?
ME?
YOU'RE REALLY LATE!
THIRD PERIOD'S ALREADY OVER
SATSUKI KUROKAWA
I SIT NEXT TO YOU.
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THAT
WHY WOULD I ARM WRESTLE A GIRL?
LET'S ARM WRESTLE!
I DON'T TAKE PART IN RIDICULOUS CHALLENGES.
Suits my way
HEY!

FOREHEADS TOGETHER
?!
NO DESERTING UNDER ENEMY FIRE!
OKAY, GRIP UP
ELBOWS DOWN
NO WAITING!
ON READY SET GO
READY
HEY, WAIT A SEC!
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
A COMPETITION OF STRENGTH!
I KNOW THAT WHY ARE WE ARM WRESTLING?!

HUH? I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY SEATS...
THIS IS A BATTLE OF THE SEXES TO DECIDE WHO GETS THE SEATS BY THE WINDOWS...
Ta-da!
ARE YOU STUPID? THAT WAS...
!
カレト
SHUMP
OW!
IS A BUNNY OKAY? IT IS RIGHT?
I'VE GOT BAND-AIDS...
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.
SORRY, RUSH JOB
That it's all I got.
Other...?
OH!
OH NO! I'M SOOO SORRY! DID MY NAILS DIG INTO YOU?
WHAT?
BLOOD?!

WHY DON'T YOU GO SIT IN THOSE PRECIOUS SEATS? GO TO AN ARENA OR ANYWHERE... AS LONG AS IT'S FAR AWAY FROM ME
why don't you...
STOP TOUCHING ME!
but, I had to trick the handcuffs on
PAT
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT.
LOSE TO THE GIRLS RIGHT FROM THE START AND THEY'LL LORD IT OVER US ALL YEAR
BETTER BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL OF KUROKAWA, BOSS.
DON'T PUT ALL THE RESPONSIBILITY ON THE GUY WHO JUST GOT OFF SUSPENSION!
Who're you calling short?!
IN ANY CASE, I OBJECT
YOU WEREN'T USING ALL OF YOUR STRENGTH, WERE YOU SENDO?
SQUEEZE
Next time, at your full strength!
LET'S HAVE A REMATCH ONCE SENDO'S HAND HAS FULLY RECOVERED.
YEAH YEAH
You boys are so petty.
Argh...
I SEE.
WELL THEN, HURRY UP AND HEAL SO WE CAN REMATCH!
Sakuragi
BING
BING

DON'T SING DISGUSTING SONGS RIGHT BEFORE LUNCH!
I'm just a flesh sack...!
Eww!
Gross!
WHAT AN AGGRESSIVE EGOTISTICAL, DESTRUCTIVE AND ANNOYING GIRL!
I'm a mouth, I'm an eyeball...
I'm an ear, I'm a nose...
To top it off, she's next to me...
WELL THEN, WHY DON'T YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT THEN?
Huh?
TELL ME A FUN STORY
AAH! HOW AWESOME!
A BATTLE OF BRUTE STRENGTH!
Shut up
WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, IT CERTAINLY DOES SOUND FUN BUT...
WHAT'S FUN ABOUT THAT?
LIKE ABOUT GETTING SUSPENDED
YOU GOT TO COMPLETELY VENT YOUR EMOTIONS AND THEN DO NOTHING BUT LOUNGE AT HOME IT SOUNDS FUN TO ME
WELL, YOU GOT INTO A HUGE FIGHT AND GOT A MASSIVE SUSPENSION FOR IT, DIDN'T YOU?

HERE I'LL PATCH YOU UP AGAIN!
THAT'S WHY I'M TAKING RESPONSIBILITY AND TENDING TO YOUR WOUNDS!
SQUEEZE
OW!
AND THIS PRETTY MUCH CANCELS OUT MY RECOVERY TIME
Eep!
Seriously, get out of here. Go to Iscandar* or anywhere else please!
I didn't really start a fight
IT WASN'T AN IMPORTANT FIGHT
SOME UPPERCLASSMEN BIT OFF MORE THAN THEY COULD CHEW

*Note See page 194

HMM...
YOU DIDN'T GET HURT VERY BADLY, DID YOU?
Considering the intensity of the fight
WHAT MIDDLE SCHOOL ARE YOU FROM?
YOU'RE PRETTY STRONG, AREN'T YOU?
THERE'S ANOTHER STRONG PERSON FROM NANA MIDDLE HERE TOO
NANA

A GIRL CALLED AYA-CHAN
SHE'S APPARENTLY IN OUR GRADE TOO, BUT WHEN I ASK THE LOCAL GIRLS, THEY ALL INSIST THEY DON'T KNOW HER
WHAT'S WRONG?
Aya is usually a girl's name
ANYONE WHO CALLS ME BY THAT NAME REGRETS IT LATER
HUH?
WHAT WILL YOU DO WHEN YOU FIND HER?
CHALLENGE HER, OF COURSE!
I KNEW IT
Things're getting complicated again
Sit down
?
I SEE WE HAVE A VOLUNTEER. READ, KUROKAWA
Yee haw!
GONG
Lunch time!
Yeah
WELL, THEN COME BACK SOON
WHAT FOR?
I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HER BEFORE SHE DISCOVERS MY SECRET...
SENDO, YOU GOTTA TAKE A DUMP?
NO, JUST HUNGRY
GRGL GRGL GRGL
Anyone want something to drink?
SHOOT...
Grab me a beer at the cafeteria

SO I CAN RE-BANDAGE YOUR RIGHT HAND.
PAT
I DON'T REALLY GET HER
.....
YOU CAN'T DO IT BY YOURSELF, CAN YOU?
.....
IF YOU WANT TO.
SHE LOOKED SO HAPPY TALKING ABOUT THE FIGHT.
BUT SHE'S JUST AS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT STEALING ME.
You'd better hurry back!
HOW WOULD SHE RE'CT.
IF I TELL HER I'M THE ONE SHE'S LOOKING FOR?

SHE'LL PROBABLY BURST OUT LAUGHING
What am I expecting?
I HAVE NO EXPERIENCE WITH THIS KINDA STUFF
Ha ha ha!
RESTROOM
It's a liar's world
Shine on, America!
Lie to us...
That's right
THAT BASTARD SENDO
mutter
mutter
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM
SLIDE
What's going on here?
HE'S GOT TOO MUCH ATTITUDE FOR A FIRST YEAR.
EVEN THAT FIGHT WITH THE UPPERCLASSMEN DIDN'T FAZE HIM.
Hup!
AND THEN HE GOES AND SMASHES MY NOSE.
You said it!
Sore subject
SHADDUP!
YOUR FLAT NOSE IS GONNA BE EVEN FLATTER

HE ONLY JUST GOT BACK FROM THAT LONG SUSPENSION HE GOT, RIGHT? HE PROBABLY CAN'T AFFORD TO GET INTO ANY MORE TROUBLE
WHAT'RE THESE GUYS UP TO?
ARE THESE THE GUYS SENDO FOUGHT?
EVEN IF IT IS ONLY IN SELF DEFENSE LIKE BEFORE
NEXT TIME HE'LL GET A LONG TERM SUSPENSION OR EVEN AN EXPULSION EITHER WAY, HE'S OUT
ANOTHER SMALL FIGHT AND HE'LL BE EXPELLED?!
ANYWAY LET'S WAIT FOR HIM HERE
HE'S BOUND TO PASS BY HERE ON HIS WAY TO THE CAFETERIA OR HOME
AND IN THE MEANTIME LET'S EAT LU--
WHO DID THAT?!
GOD!
ACK!
WHOOSH

HAVE YOUR BRAINS SHUT DOWN?
I'M SO MAD, I COULD PUKE.
HUH?!
WHAT'D YOU SAY? YOU MAKIN' FUN OF US? WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN HERE AND SAY THAT?
DO YOU KNOW WHO YOU'RE TALKING T--
ゴスッ
OOF!
She came down!

UNDERESTIMATE ME BECAUSE I'M A WOMAN AND A FIRST YEAR, AND YOU DIE YOUNG.
THINK YOU CAN REMEMBER THAT?
I WENT EASY ON YOU CAUSE I THOUGHT YOU WERE A WOMAN, BITCH.
Steady
OH, THANKS A LOT!
WHOA.
YOU SURE YOU WANNA KEEP TALKING STUPID?

SMASH
IN THE COURTYARD!
FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT!
WHAM
HUH? ISN'T THAT THE TAKEUCHI WHO'S A SENIOR...
...AND GOT CLOBBERED BY A FIRST YEAR RECENTLY?
AW, MAN! FIVE GUYS AGAINST A GIRL!

SHOVE
SHOVE
SHOVE
SHOVE
How the heck did she get down there before me?!
OUTTA MY WAY!
UNH!
!
STOP, IT'S ME!
OH

がんばれ
OH!
NOOO! WHY ARE YOU GETTING INVOLVED, SENDO?!
YOU CAN'T FIGHT!
ARE YOU STUPID?!
I'M PRETTY SURE THESE ARE THE GUYS WHO MESSED WITH ME
I've gotta stand up for myself
Dude, don't worry! We've given up.
It hurts
THIS IS MY FIGHT!
STAY OUT OF IT, SENDO!
WHO CARES!

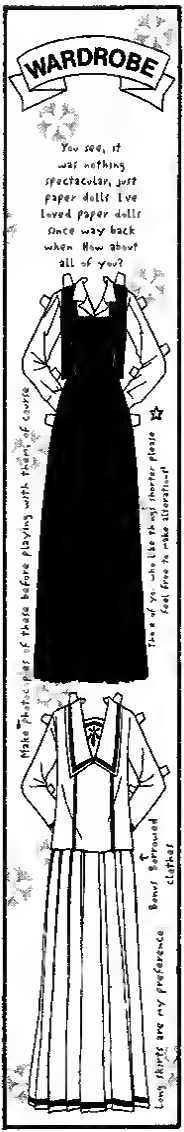
You there!
OH, CRAP!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
You
NOW GET OUT OF HERE SENDO
YOU'RE GONNA GET IN TROUBLE EVEN THOUGH YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS
C'MON!
It's pointless to run!
WHO IS THE CAUSE OF ALL THIS RUCKUS?!
UH, THAT WOULD BE ME SIR. I STARTED IT.
I WANTED TO PUNCH THEM OUT SO BADLY I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF
Now you listen here, a lady shouldn't involve herself in such things.
I have more strength than I know what to do with.
Heh heh
YOU ALWAYS DO EVERYTHING YOUR WAY.
KUROKAWA
ARE YOU REALLY EVEN LISTENING TO ME?

YOU'RE REALLY INFURIATING
DON'T WORRY
IT'S ONLY GOODBYE FOR A LITTLE WHILE
ひら ひら
EVEN AT A TIME LIKE THIS, YOU SMILE
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW YOU MAKE ME FEEL.

WHAT ARE MY FEELINGS?
I HEARD SHE GOT SUSPENDED FOR THREE DAYS.
ざわ
ざわ
SO SORRY!
HOW DESPICABLE!
WHAT'S WORSE, SHE ATTACKED SOME GUYS WHO WERE ALREADY INJURED.
THAT GIRL FROM YESTERDAY?
SHE'S A FIRST YEAR, RIGHT?
ざわ
ざわ
SHE ONLY JUST STARTED SCHOOL AND SHE'S ALREADY GETTING INTO FIGHTS WITH UPPER-CLASSMEN.
I GOT SUSPENDED FOR TWO WEEKS THE VERY MOMENT I STARTED SCHOOL!
CLACK
WHAT? ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
IT PISSES ME OFF TO HEAR OTHER PEOPLE TALKING LIKE THAT

SATSUKI'S NOT HOME...
Cafeteria
I WAS IN THE STAFF ROOM JUST NOW...
Yeah
HUH? WHAT WAS THAT?
What did you say?
HE CALLED, BUT NO ONE IS ANSWERING THE PHONE JEEZ KAJI-YAN WAS GRIPPING THE RECEIVER SO HARD HIS VEINS WERE POPPING...
THEY CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE HOME WHILE YOU'RE SUSPENDED??
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU'RE NOT
Not good!
I'M SURE YOU GET EVEN MORE TIME PILED ON
SOMEONE SHOULD LET KUROKAWA KNOW
THAT GIRL REALLY REALLY BUGS ME !
YEAH BUT WE CAN'T REACH HIM BY PHONE
WHAT ABOUT HER CELL PHONE?
THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D OWN A SENSIBLE THING LIKE THAT!
WHAT IF SHE JUST WENT TO THE STORE?
Enough already!
I'LL DO IT!!
SOMEONE SHOULD GO AND SEE
THEN LET'S DRAW LOTS TO-

I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT BE DEPRESSED ABOUT GETTING INTO A PETTY FIGHT FOR ME
DING
DONG
IT'S TRUE
SHE'S REALLY NOT HERE...
404
Kurokawa
I WONDER IF HAVING A GUY LIKE ME PROWLING AROUND HER PLACE WILL MAKE PEOPLE THINK BADLY OF HER
BANG
ガシャン
じろ
じろ
.....
WHY AM I SO WORRIED ABOUT HER?
ME COMING HERE ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING.


WARDROBE
You see, it was nothing spectacular, just paper dolls I've loved paper dolls since way back when. How about all of you?
If any of you who like them shorter please feel free to make alterations!
Make photocopies of these before playing with them, of course.
Bonus! Borrowed clothes
Long skirts are my preference.

Note: See page 194

EH?
WHOA!
RRR
Yikes!
RRR

RRRRR
R
CLICK
Sheesh, they hung up
Hup.
I CAN BARELY WALK IN THESE CLOTHES
IT'S NO USE
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SUSPENDED WHY ARE YOU DRESSED UP AND PLAYING AROUND?
THADUMP
HUH?
I MADE A RUN FOR IT CAUSE I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE MY SCHOOL
NOPE, I MISSED IT
Ah
They're tiny...
SIS, DID YOU GET TO THE PHONE IN TIME?
I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND
THEN WHAT?

OH WELL IT'LL BE FINE...
IF I TELL THEM I WAS OUT ON A PARENTS' DAY VISIT WITH MY CUTE LITTLE SIBLINGS
FOR REAL?
YES.
No, it's a lie if you adores your cute little brother, you wouldn't bent on him all the time
WHEN I TOLD MY MOM I HAD GOTTEN SUSPENDED SHE WAS ABSOLUTELY THRILLED
CAUSE SHE GOT A FREE BABYSITTER AND HOUSEKEEPER
MY DAD AND MOM BOTH WORK, SO THEY AREN'T HOME MUCH
Since this morning I've already done the cleaning, the laundry and the school visit
SO...
Uh...
I'M JUST HERE AS A REPRESENTATIVE FROM CLASS SIX!
EVERYONE WAS FUSSING ABOUT OUR HOMEROOM TEACHER GETTING MAD AT YOU FOR NOT BEING HOME
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE, SENDO?

COME ON IN SENDO
DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT AT LEAST HAVING SOME TEA
KANNA, YAYOI, HAVE HIM COME IN
SO YOU DREW THE SHORT STRAW?
OH!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT I'LL GET YOU THIS TIME!
CREAK
SO YOU CAME TO CHECK IN ON ME!
I APPRECIATE IT
RRRRR
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! I'M COMING, I'M COMING!
SEE
OF COURSE THERE'S REALLY NO REASON SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTING ME TO COME
.....
?
HEY MISTER WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
Visitor List
DAD AND MOM TOLD US...
...TO ASK PEOPLE'S NAMES BEFORE WE LET THEM INSIDE
STOP
THUD

I NEED TO STAY HERE NOW
IT'S NOT LIKE
IT'S SENDO
Sharp kids!
IT'S AYA SENDO
I NEED BOTH YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAMES
HUH?! WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I CAN'T HEAR YOU MISTER
カ!!!
ば
IT'S AYA SENDO! YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?!
SHADDUP! I TOLD YOU MY NAME TWICE DIDN'T I?
...yes, uh-huh yes
YES, I'M TERRIBLY SORRY
I'll call the police, you!
どカ
どカ
Aaaaah!
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO PICK US UP! PUT US DOWN!

ANYHOW IT'S NOT LIKE OBEDIENTLY SITTING AT HOME WILL MAKE ME REFLECT ON WHAT I DID
I WANTED TO POUND THEM, SO I DID. IT WAS REALLY QUITE REFRESHING.
IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE THEY WERE GOING TO BUY THE SIBLING-LOVE THING, SO I TOLD HIM I WENT TO THE PUBLIC BATH. I APOLOGIZED FOR TAKING SUCH A LONG BATH AND HUNG UP.
!
BEEP
THE PHONE...
THAT WAS THE SCHOOL.
we're not really playing...
I DON'T MIND, BUT...
SPEAKING OF, YOU THREE SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN, EH!
I'M GOING BACK!
Jeez, I can't stand this woman!
ACK!
I'M SORRY!
IT WAS A JOKE!
...AND THEN LET'S HAVE OUR MATCH RIGHT, AYA-CHAN!
she heard me...
I WANNA PLAY WITH YOU, TOO!
HURRY UP AND HEAL THAT RIGHT HAND...

It'll hurt when I pull them off
Don't move, okay?
THAT'S ONE OF THE AMAZING THINGS BOUT HER.
SO WHY DOES SHE MAKE ME SO MAD?
STAY AFTER ALL, YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY!
Here you go.
KEEP LOOKING AT ME...
...THE WAY YOU ARE NOW.
AND BESIDES YOUR BANDAGES
SHOULD BE CHANGED OFTEN IN THE BEGINNING
...THINK OF ME AND ONLY ME...
MORE AND
AND ALWAYS CONCENTRATES FULLY ON WHAT LIES BEFORE HER
SHE'S ABLE TO FORGET THE THINGS SHE CAN'T CHANGE

...EVEN AFTER MY RIGHT HAND HAS HEALED
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND.
1-6
AND JUST LIKE THAT...
...SENDO'S RIGHT HAND HAS COMPLETELY RECOVERED!
Go on.
AND KUROKAWA'S SUSPENSION IS OVER
Go on.

EXACTLY WHAT I'D BEEN HOPING FOR...
LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN.
I'LL NEVER HAVE TO LET GO OF YOUR HAND.
I AM UP TO THE CHALLENGE.
...AND HOPE THAT YOU'LL BE FILLED WITH THOUGHTS OF ME.
ALL RIGHT.
ON-READY-SET-GO

READY...
Grr...!
THWACK
SENDO LOSES!
THEIR BATTLE IS FAR FROM OVER...
Y-Yi!
I see...
Victory!
Poor Sendo

MY ABSOLUTE WORST DEADLINE (SHORT SUNZEN! CHAPTER 4)
THE TALE OF MY HORRIBLE TRIP TO TOKYO (PART 1)
MY EDITOR WAS COMING OUT TO OSAKA THAT NIGHT TO PICK UP THE PAGES OF MY BOOK
ONE SUNDAY EVENING IN MARCH.
A ALL right
Eat dinner without me, I've got to work on the book!
This is not good! I haven't even finished highlighting Sendo's hair!
Aaaargh!
Sorry, (I'm) (going to) eat
I must work more
キリキリ
OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED. WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR I WOULDN'T MEET THE DEADLINE HE ALLOWED ME TO SEND IT SAME DAY BY BULLET TRAIN POST FIRST THING IN THE MORNING
キリキリキリキリ
AFTER GETTING SOME LAST-MINUTE VACATION TIME FROM WORK, ME AND MY EVER-PRESENT MOTION SICKNESS GRABBED A TAXI AND HOPPED ON A BULLET TRAIN TO TOKYO WITHOUT MY MOTION SICKNESS MEDICINE.
Dashed in the train just in time.
Got a seat, too. A miracle, considering how crowded it was.
IN ANY CASE, HURRY UP AND GET THERE, HIKARI!
THE NEXT MORNING— BEFORE SIX A.M.
I REALIZED THAT MAKING THE FIRST BULLET TRAIN POST WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE
BUT SINCE THE DEADLINE'S ALREADY...
I'll bring the pages to Tokyo myself.

NIGHTLIFE DISTRICT ON A LIFELESS MORNING
だっ
だっ
だっ
だっ
だっ
SORRY! COMING THROUGH!
WHEN YOU'RE RUNNING LATE YOU TEND TO BUMP INTO PEOPLE.
ばんっ
OW!
I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT I'M IN A HURRY!
IF APOLOGIES SOLVED EVERYTHING WE WOULDN'T NEED THE POLICE NOW WOULD WE?
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE EVEN SORRY AT ALL!
CLENCH
¡HUH? !!!

"I'M SORRY" IS ENOUGH
SNACK
DUCHT
たったか
THE NEIGHBORHOOD OSAKA'S NIGHTLIFE DISTRICT
THE DESTINATION TAMAZUKA HIGH SCHOOL
IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL SINCERITY?!
I'M TOO BUSY TO CARE
THE COMMUTER ONE VIOLENT GIRL
HER NAME IS SATSUKI KUROKAWA
たったか

WARDROBE
I love plaid and flower patterns! It's fun dressing Satsuki up all cute.
Sakuran. A white chiaran used to adorn a display window in textile district near my alma mater. It always make me think of Go Go 13. I wonder why. To this day I've still never seen a uniform more striking than that one.
SHE'S STARTING HER SENIOR YEAR AT TAMA HIGH
ARRIVING LATE IS NOT A GREAT WAY TO START OFF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR
LET'S SEE... WHAT CLASS AM I IN...WHAT CLASS
DARN IT! I MUST BE MISSING IT
SATSUKI!!

YOU'RE IN HERE! CLASS 3-12
GET UP HERE QUICK!!
SENDO!
WHY'D THEY BOTH HAVE TO BE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN?
UM, WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF HOMEROOM, YOU KNOW
NEVER MIND THAT. STOP WAVING AT ME AND HURRY UP HERE
YOU'RE IN CLASS 12, TOO?!

SHE'S FINALLY HERE.
Oh God, morning!
Heya! Hi!
JUST SIT DOWN
THAT'S YOUR SEAT
HIS NAME IS AYA SENDO
WHEW!
HE IS KNOWN NOT ONLY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SURROUNDING TAMA HIGH
BUT OVER ALL OF OSAKA AS THE STRONGEST GUY AROUND BUT HIS HEAD...
THANKS FOR WATCHING OUT FOR ME
IS FILLED ONLY WITH THOUGHTS OF THE GIRL HE LIKES
I WAS JUST ADMIRING THE VIEW IS ALL.
IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS...
WOW IT'S YUME.
FOR TWO WHOLE YEARS NOW

NOW WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!
YEAH! WHAT-EVER THEY SAY, WE'RE SENIORS NOW.
WE CAN DO ANYTHING
WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS SO THERE'LL BE.
LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR US TO GET PHYSICAL AGAIN.
planning to pass activities?
MUMBLE
DIDN'T I SAY I WAS GOING TO GET MORE AGGRESSIVE THIS YEAR?
ざわっ
EVEN SO, THE PAIR
HAS HELD HANDS AND HUGGED IN PUBLIC.
AS ALWAYS, SATSUKI IS CLUELESS OF SENDO'S FEELINGS...
YEAH, AND IN HOME ROOM NO LESS
THEY'RE PLOTTING TROUBLE
WAS THERE ANYTHING TO STOP US BEFORE?
?

SENDO! WHAT RE YOU DOIN' WALKING AROUND HERE WITH A GIRL AT THIS HOUR?
AND IN YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM NO LESS! UNFORGIVABLE!
Nosey neighbor at it in Sendo's business
What?!
ARGH!
That old bawdy
THEIR FEELINGS FOR EACH OTHER GREW...
WHY DON'T WE GO ON ANOTHER WALK THIS TIME ARM IN ARM? ♡
Hold
...AND THEY ATTEMPTED TO WALK ARM IN ARM, BUT...
and Ran away...
Goodness! graciously...
THESE TWO ARE ALWAYS ENCOUNTERING OBSTACLES
Fight!
LIKE HERE
arm wrestling
Crash!
AND HERE
tackle & follow
Show...
AND HERE
camouflage

AND YET
the gym or ten
Boys and girls, go t d their ent
IT S RARE TO HEAR SENDO SPEAK OF BEING AGGRESSIVE.
ポカポカ
THEIR THOUGHTS ARE NEITHER VERY FAR APART NOR VERY CLOSE.
YEAH, SHE'S HERE SHE'S EATING HER LUNCH
KUROKAWA, SOMEONE'S CALLING FOR YOU
Huh?
Kamishiro
Off to the infirmary!
I'll make the girls are having their physical examsheard Sumi
WILL THE DAY COME WHEN THEIR ROMANTIC FEELINGS SYNCHRONIZE?
I HOPE I DON'T MISS OUT ON IT
AH, I CAN'T WAIT! SOUNDS LIKE IT'S GONNA BE A SPECTACULAR FIGHT
Ani
Note: See page 194
IT S SOME JUNIOR
SAYS HIS NAME'S MORIYASU
HUH? WHO'S THAT?
3-12
I BETTER MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T GET INTO TROUBLE ON HER OWN
UH-OH! SHE'S GOT BRAWLING ON THE BRAIN AGAIN!
KURO-KAWA?
HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS THINKIN REAL HARD MAYBE HE'S GOING TO CONFESS TO YOU
NO WAY
WOO-HOO!
Boo-hoo-hoo
Sigh
GRGGL
CHURN
GUGU

WHAT?
KUROKAWA
KUROKAWA SAN!
HUH?
UH...
AS I THOUGHT I DON'T KNOW HIM
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YEAH?
NO!
WITH A NAME LIKE "SATSUKI" I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE FEMALE.
AND YOU ARE
AW MAN!
WE'VE STRUCK OUT!
THAT'S IT IT'S HOPELESS!

HEY! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
YOU'RE THIS CLOSE TO GETTING A KNUCKLE SANDWICH!
ACK!
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT REMARK WAS DISCRIMINATORY?!
WHY CAN'T IT BE A WOMAN? WHAT'S WRONG WITH WOMEN?
YOUR LITTLE PUSSY WHINING SURE ISN'T MAKING ANYTHING ANY CLEARER, EITHER!
OOF!
UGH!
KUROKAWA'S BULLYING A YOUNGER MAN
SHOW US SOME MORE OF THAT LEG, SATSUKI
THAT'S RIGHT I LENT THEM MY NAME AROUND THE TIME I FIRST STARTED HERE
THEY TOLD ME THEY NEEDED SEVERAL MORE CLUB MEMBERS TO PREVENT THE CLUB FROM BEING DISBANDED
And they handed me with no tears in their eyes
Whoa
BUT I GUESS BACK THEN THEY HAD NO REGULATIONS AGAINST GIRLS JOINING
MY NAME'S ON THE MALE CHEERLEADING CLUB ROSTER?
WHAT?
The spectators were so shocked they showed no emotion at all.

I'VE BEEN CONTACTING PEOPLE FROM OUR OLD ROSTERS AND ASKING THEM TO JOIN
BUT NO ONE'S AVAILABLE
HOW MANY PEOPLE SHORT ARE YOU?
WELL, WE NEED ANOTHER THREE PEOPLE AT THE VERY LEAST FOR THE ROUTINE
I SEE.
HEY!!
AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, OUR CAPTAIN IS IN THE HOSPITAL.
OH!
I'M TRYING TO GET THINGS IN SHAPE FOR WHEN HE COMES BACK.
I SEE
WELL, THE CURRENT CAPTAIN IS A A FANATIC WHEN IT COMES TO PRINCIPLES
Hmm
I want to teach him a lesson
WE'RE PERFORMING A CHEER ROUTINE THERE BUT WE DON'T HAVE NEARLY ENOUGH PEOPLE
IN TWO WEEKS, THERE'S AN ASSEMBLY TO INTRODUCE THE NEW STUDENTS TO ALL THE CLUBS
SO DON'T DO IT THIS YEAR
It's nothing to pout over
PARTICIPATION IS MANDATORY IF WE DON'T ENTER, OUR CLUB WILL BE DISBANDED
.....
What a cry baby.
Sob
Sob

Up here. Up here
Yikes!
HEY, SENDO
..YOU DONE EATING LUNCH?
SATSUKI?
Who's the little twerp up there with you?
HEY...
HOOK ME UP WITH SOME GUYS!

IN OTHER WORDS
YOU WANT ME TO FIND YOU SOME GUYS WHO DON'T MIND DRESSING UP LIKE MALE CHEERLEADERS FOR THE ASSEMBLY?
YEP, YOU GOT IT!
Guys that seem to have the right potential
WHEW I OVERREACTED
WELL I SAID SEVERAL GUYS BUT WE REALLY ONLY NEED ONE MORE
HUH?
BUT WE NEED THREE
YEAH--ME, SENDO AND ONE OTHER
Let's get a move on.
HUH?!
TALL AS YOU ARE, SENDO, I'LL BET YOU'LL SHINE ON STAGE
ポン
!
ポン

AND WITH THAT...
YO, YAKUSHI-SENPAI!
I CONTACTED OLD MEMBERS FROM THE ROSTER BUT..
I wanna see!
WELL...
I GUESS I'M OKAY WITH IT
Wearing
C'MON YOU'LL DO IT WON'T YOU?
SENDO KUROKAWA
THIS IS THE CLUB ROOM?
IS AKAMICHI NOT A HERE?
CREAK
WHAT A CRUDE PLACE.
COME ON SHINGETSU KUN FORGET ABOUT ALL THIS AND COME HANG OUT WITH US
WOMEN AREN'T ALLOWED TO JOIN! THE CAPTAIN'LL--
ARE YOU STUPID, YASU?!

Whoa!
IT'S SHINGETSU SENPAI!
Ha ha ha!
ARE YOU WORRIED I'LL INTRODUCE MYSELF TO SOME FIRST YEAR GIRLS AT THE ASSEMBLY?
WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
Dirty chair
Didn't he graduate already?
HUH? WELL IF IT ISN'T MY PAL SHINGETSU
Yeah!
Peace sign
IT'S THE FIRST DAY OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR AND I'VE DECIDED TO START COMING!
LONG TIME NO SEE I HEARD YOU WERE HELD BACK
Hmph.
I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYONE ELSE WHO'D HAVE TIME TO SPARE
I'M THRILLED TO BE ABLE TO DO A FAVOR FOR YOU EVEN IF HE'S THE ONE THAT ASKED
Shake a leg!
WELL THEN, SHALL WE GET DOWN TO BUSINESS?
HOLD ON A SEC!
The male cheerleading club is doomed...
The world of men!
AAH! I'M SO EXCITED!

DO YOU INTEND TO WEAR THAT
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE.
No gym today so I don't have gym clothes
IT'S NOT LIKE I EVER CHANGE CLOTHES TO GET ROWDY
I I MUST AVERT MY EYES!
They kinda stink of locker though
PERFECT!
NOW, LET'S GET GOING
Fitting session included in the days activities
UNIFORM UNIFORMLY REJECTED
Girl
I can't concentrate
Me neither
IN ANY CASE, IT'LL BE BETTER IF YOU WEAR THIS FOR TODAY
THE GUY WHO OWNS IT HASN'T SHOWN UP FOR A LONG TIME.
I FEEL LIKE WE'RE GEARING UP FOR A FIGHT!
I have a bad feeling about this

DON
DON
AND HERE YOU GO THIS LIKE THIS
OOPS
Huh
Dof!
THE OTHER WAY! THE OTHER WAY!
AND WHY ARE YOU HITTING HIM?!
HOW'S SENDO DOING?
DON
DON
GREAT, AS EXPECTED..
I'VE KNOWN ABOUT SENDO SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL..
AND HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO CHALLENGE HIM
BUT...
DON

THANKS
.....
Whew
TAKE A BREAK
HOLD ON, SATSUKI
YOU'RE LOOSE IN BACK
WHAT AM I THINKING?
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO WORK TOGETHER RIGHT NOW
Yeah, I'd better not do it now.
LOOK AT THAT GUY
Hey! Hey!
EEK I CAN'T TELL SENDO ABOUT THIS
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THAT'S A GIRL
NO WAY
JUST LOOK AT HER LONG HAIR
がくっ
EEK!
Too bad
MALE CHEERLEADERS ARE ALL GAY

#11
Uuh! They're watching us! And they've got a camera!!
Peace
Shinsetsu kun! Peace!
Gotta work hard! Gotta work hard!
WHATEVER LET'S FOCUS ON PRACTICE PRACTICE PRACTICE!
Her sakuran is being adjusted
THE DAY PASSED IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
C'MON YASU! STRETCH THAT ARM OUT FURTHER!
Could you NOT sit on me on 3rd base?
Yasu's dad
Waaah!
AND DROP YOUR BUTT
Hey!
I JUST GOT A PHONE CALL!
THE CAPTAIN'S BEING RELEASED AND HE'LL BE HERE TOMORROW!
KNOWING THE CAPTAIN, HE'LL BE FINE WITHOUT HAVING PRACTICED!
You think so
WELL THEN, GUESS TOMORROW WILL BE A REAL *DRAG*, HUH?
OR I COULD JUST PUT HIM BACK IN THE HOSPITAL.
WE'LL FILL HIM IN OVER THE PHONE
DUMMY!

IF THERE'RE ANY BLOWS TO BE DEALT, I'LL BE THE ONE DEALING THEM
BUT ONLY AS A LAST RESORT...
LET'S HANDLE THIS PEACEFULLY!
Poke!
THAT'S RARE COMING FROM YOU
YEAH?
Me and the certain personnel committee!
IF I GET INTO A FIGHT I'LL FORGET THE ROUTINE
Video...
My poor head
.....
A HEAVY FEELING OF UNEASINESS REMAINED...
ALL CLUBS...
STOMP
STOMP
UNTIL THE DAY OF THE ASSEMBLY
FIRST YEAR CLASS ONE...
MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE GYMNASIUM
I TOOK TOO LONG TO EAT LUNCH
Not again!
Aw jeez, no one's here!
But that works out. Since I'm the last one it won't matter if I change clothes here in the club room!
Chinatsu

SLAM
He's late, too...
OH CRAP!
SORRY!
And without locking the door!
Why the heck is she changing here in the club room?!
OH, THANK GOODNESS!

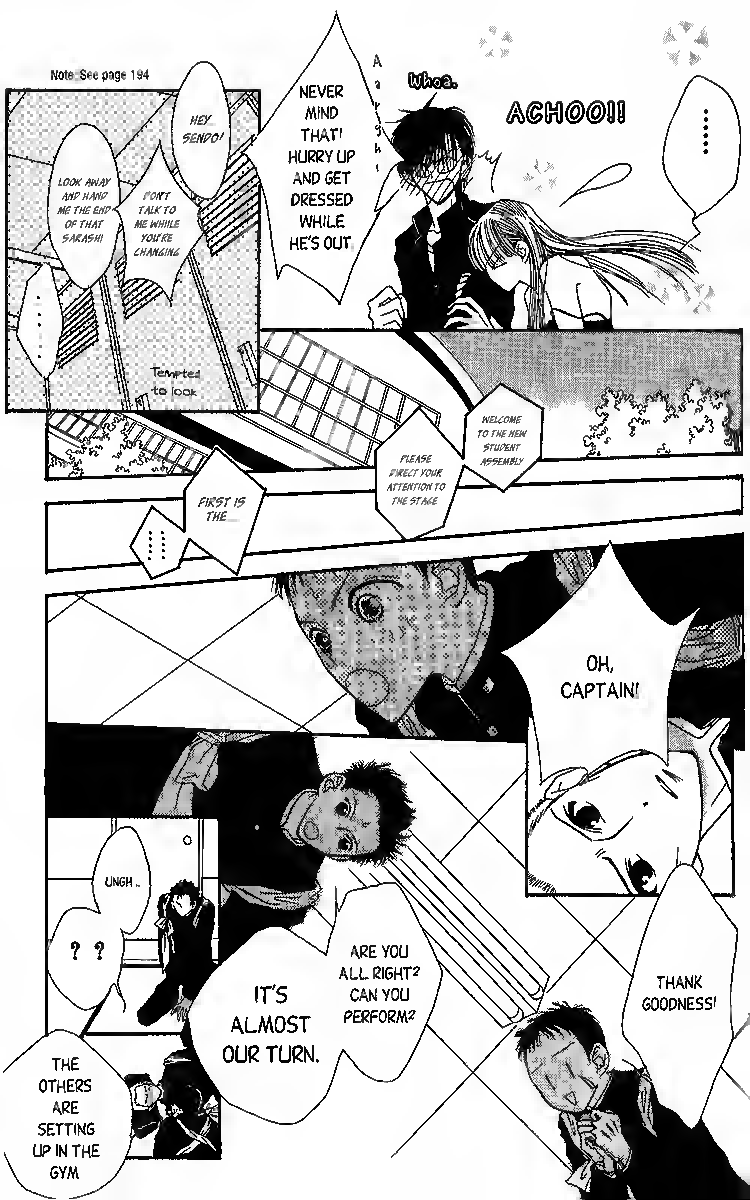
SO WE'RE TWO OF A KIND!
You're late. I'm late.
MAKING IT TO THE LOCKER ROOM WAS A PAIN FOR ME, TOO
NO MATTER WE CAN CHANGE TOGETHER
IF WE TURN AROUND, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE EACH OTHER
But... That'll save us time.
.....
YOU...
ガチャ
IS SOMEONE STILL IN HERE?
BAM
.....
WHA--
WHA--
Hiding her

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING IN OUR CLUB ROOM?!
THE CAPTAIN!!
Of all the things to happen!
Nn
SE...
BRINGING A WOMAN INTO OUR SACRED CLUB ROOM TO MAKE OUT IS UNFORGIVABLE!
EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT PART OF THE CLUB--

SATSUKI!
OW!
HAVE YOU NO SHAME EITHER, YOU HUSSY?!
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT OR YOU'RE GETTING SOME, TOO!
どっか
!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THAT HURT!
WHO'S MAKING OUT?!
YOU PRICK! YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WAS GOING ON!
Looks like she hit the wife-eye!

AND "SACRED" CLUB ROOM? GIMME A BREAK!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT AN ORDINARY BIGOT!
WHAT RIGHT DO YOU HAVE TO CHEER OTHERS ON?!
SHUT UP! WHAT THE HECK WOULD A SLUT LIKE YOU KNOW?!

NO, SENDO!
And another for good measure.
Whoops!
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE WATCHING IN FASCINATION
Stop! Stop!
NOT BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE!
YO!
FROZEN
YIKES, HE PASSED OUT
SHIT. I LOST IT.


Note: See page 194
HEY SENDO!
LOOK AWAY AND HAND ME THE END OF THAT SARASHI
I CAN'T TALK TO ME WHILE YOU'RE CHANGING
Tempted to look
NEVER MIND THAT! HURRY UP AND GET DRESSED WHILE HE'S OUT
Whoa.
A a r s h i
ACHOO!!
WELCOME TO THE 96TH STUDENT ASSEMBLY
PLEASE DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE STAGE
FIRST IS THE...
OH, CAPTAIN!
UNGH..
? ?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU PERFORM?
IT'S ALMOST OUR TURN.
THE OTHERS ARE SETTING UP IN THE GYM
THANK GOODNESS!

UM..?
IS THE ENTIRE MALE CHEERLEADING CLUB HERE NOW?!
WELL THEN WAIT IN THE WINGS UNTIL EVERYONE IS HERE
Hehm?
AH, CAPTAIN
WE MEET AGAIN
WHAT?
Too noisy
UH.. SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING FIRST YEARS
AND NOW INTRODUCING THE FINAL CLUB
Sent me on the errand

YOUR CHEER ROUTINE, IF YOU PLEASE.
SENPAI LET'S COMPETE
WHAT?
TRAINING TIME-YOU!
WHAT?!
NO WAY! HOW'D THAT HAPPEN?!

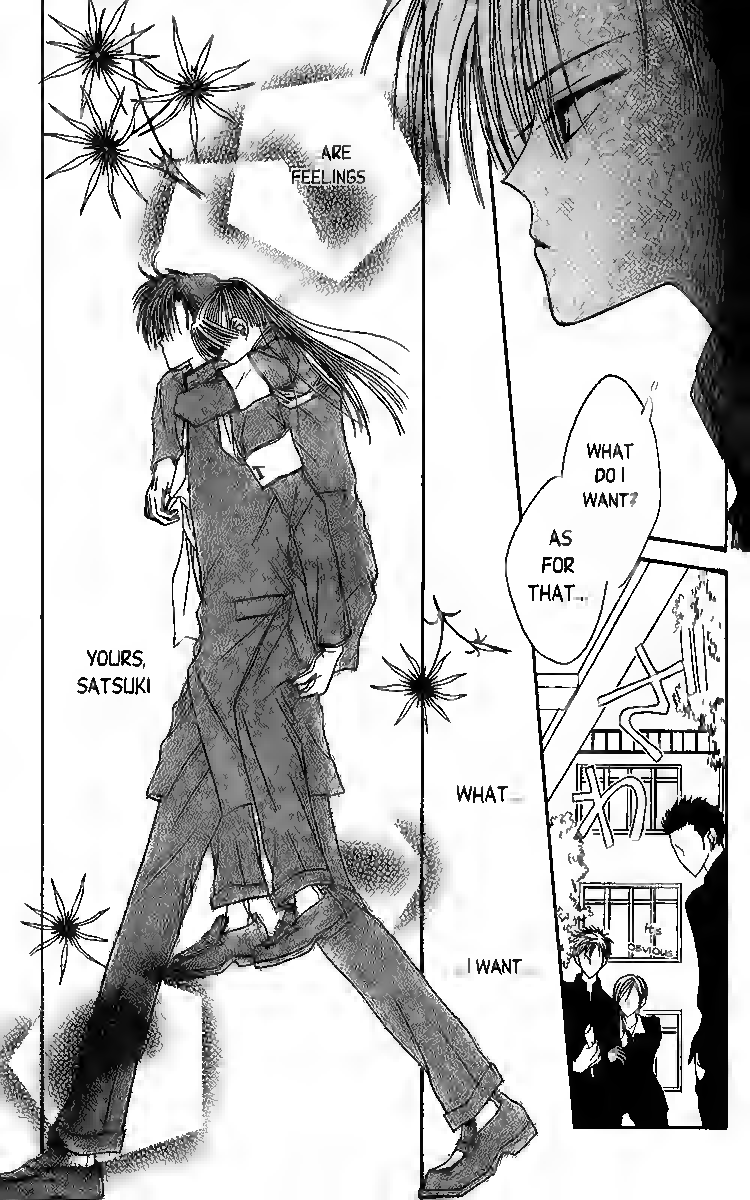
SHUT UP
NO WAY! IT'S SENDO-SAN!
SHINGETSU-SENPAI IS UP THERE TOO!
WEIRD!
WHOA CAN THIS BE?
Shingetsu-san
ARE THEY FIRST YEARS?
OH, LOOK! IT'S KUROKAWA-SENPAI
AND SHE'S WEARING A GAKURAN!
THAT'S SO LIKE HER!
HA HA HA!
It SUITS her well!
I CAN HEAR YOU YOU KNOW
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, LOOK CLOSELY, EVERYONE

SEE?
ISN'T SENDO EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS I SAID HE'D BE?
ONCE THIS IS OVER...
...I WONDER WHEN I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HIM LIKE THIS AGAIN
I PRACTICED WITH EVERYONE...
THIS IS FUN
MY BODY WILL DEFINITELY REMEMBER THE MOVES
.....
I FEEL HOT AND KINDA WOOZY
BUT, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT

I FEEL TERRIFIC!
ALL'S WELL
WHEW
AND NOW IT'S TIME TO PARTY
HUH?
TODAY'S PERFORMANCE IS SURE TO BRING US NEW MEMBERS SOON!
Good job Shunsetsu -kun_!
Wanna grab some ice cream?
Sob
Sob
Manly Laugh
YES SIR CAPTAIN! YES SIR
THEY'RE ANNOYING EVERY ONE OF THEM
HEY SENDO_
In their ears
LET'S GET CHANGED AND GRAB SOMETHING TO EA~
SATSUKI?!

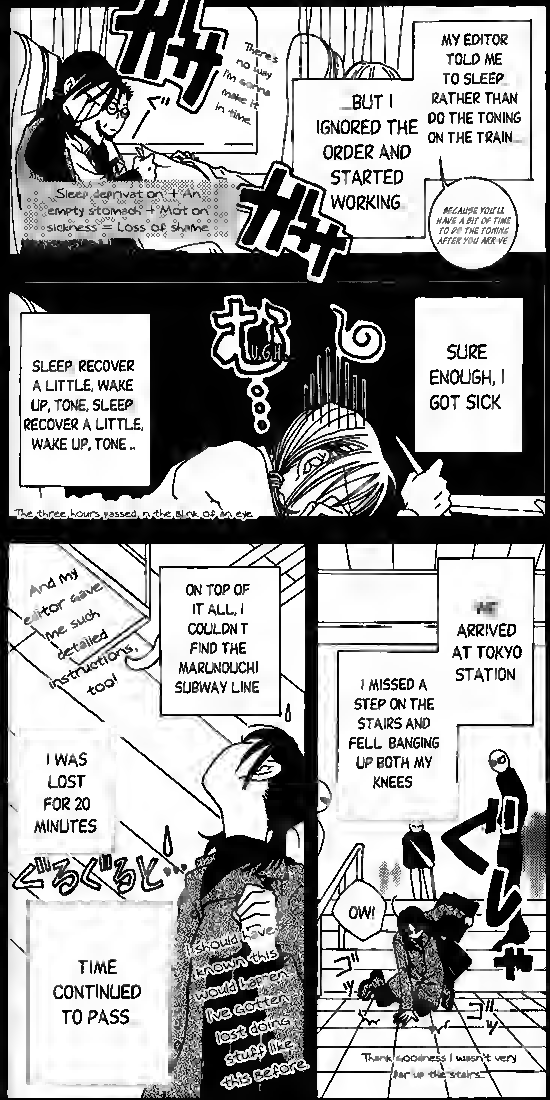
I'm so sorry...
...JUST OVERHEATED FROM ALL THAT ACTIVITY
Are you stupid?!
IT'S FROM NOT WEARING ANY CLOTHES IN THE CLUB ROOM.
HERE, GET ON.
I'M FINE
I'M FINE
I SAID, I'M FINE.
Well
I MAY NOT HAVE A NARUJO UNIFORM, BUT I SHOULD AT LEAST GET OUT OF THIS GAKURAN
NO!
As you're swarming under-neath in a sarashi
IF WE'RE SEEN LIKE THIS RUMORS ARE GONNA FLY AGAIN
.....
WHAT RUMORS?
Wait, are you talking about?
THAT WE'RE GAY
SHE DOESN'T THINK OF ME AS A GUY AT ALL
JEEZ
WELL THEN, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT.

SENDO'S BACK IS BROAD AND STRONG.
NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY, I WON'T LISTEN
Mumble
はぁ
.....
I DON'T CARE ONE BIT
LET THEM TALK
SO PLEASE, CALM DOWN AND SAVE YOUR ENERGY
I WANT YOU TO STAY LIKE THAT
WHAT'S SHE GOING ON ABOUT?
Could that person ever calm?
URGH...


ARE FEELINGS
YOURS, SATSUKI
WHAT...
...I WANT...
WHAT DO I WANT?
AS FOR THAT...

MY ABSOLUTE WORST DEADLINE EVER (SHORT SUNZEN) CHAPTER 4)

THE TALE OF MY HORRIBLE TRIP TO TOKYO (PART 2)


Sleep deprivation + An empty stomach + Mist on sickness = Loss of shame
There's no way I'm gonna make it in time.
BUT I IGNORED THE ORDER AND STARTED WORKING
MY EDITOR TOLD ME TO SLEEP RATHER THAN DO THE TONING ON THE TRAIN...
BECAUSE YOU'LL HAVE A BIT OF TIME TO DO THE TONING AFTER YOU ARRIVE
U.G.H...
SLEEP. RECOVER A LITTLE, WAKE UP, TONE, SLEEP. RECOVER A LITTLE, WAKE UP, TONE..
SURE ENOUGH, I GOT SICK
The three hours passed, in the blink of an eye...
ARRIVED AT TOKYO STATION
I MISSED A STEP ON THE STAIRS AND FELL, BANGING UP BOTH MY KNEES
OW!
Thank goodness I wasn't very far up the stairs...
ON TOP OF IT ALL, I COULDN'T FIND THE MARUNOUCHI SUBWAY LINE
And my editor gave me such detailed instructions, too!
I WAS LOST FOR 20 MINUTES
TIME CONTINUED TO PASS
I should've known this would happen. I've gotten lost doing stuff like this before.

KEEP OUT
Credits:
Cleaner: Riz
QC-er: xTruToshirox
The rights for translating and editing go to:
Tokyopop

Evil Flowers
First Anniversary!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
EVIL FLOWERS!
It's been one year since we've been together! And we hope we'll be here with you for the years to come! All our hard working staff have been working for you, precious fans. Don't forget to come and visit us at our reconstructed site, http://evilflowers.com. We would love to hear your opinion about our work. We are also really friendly and like to chat a lot so don't forget to check our IRC channel [#Evil-Flowers@irc.rizon.net] and our forum as well! ^^
With Love,
Evil Flowers' Staff

すんぜん
ショート寸前!!
SHORT-SUNZEN!

DO YOU LIKE CUTE GIRLS?
3-12
DOESN'T EVERYBODY?
EVEN I DO, AND I'M A GIRL.

FUTURE

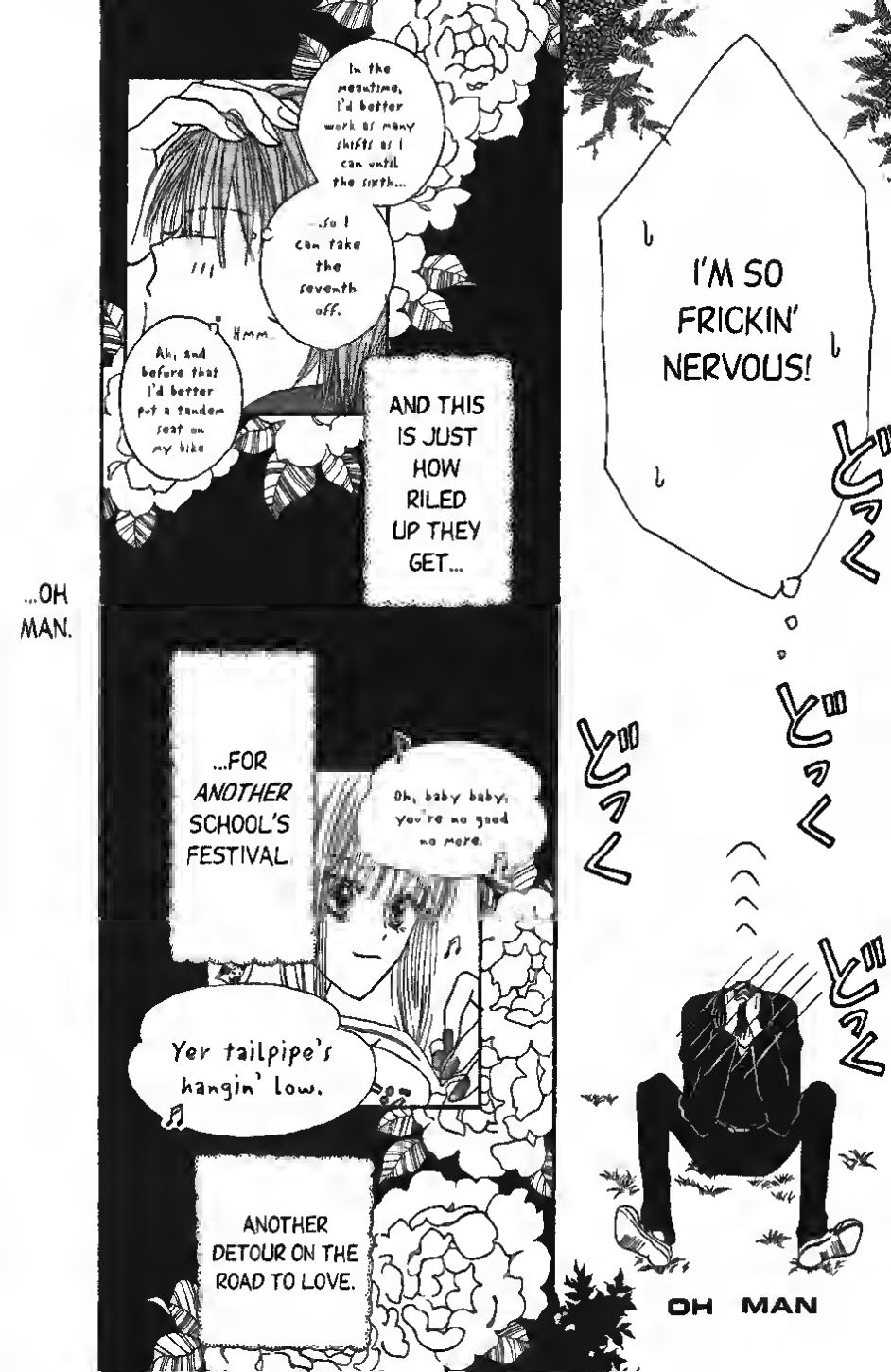
WANNA GO TO A SCHOOL FESTIVAL WITH ME?
KUNEI GIRLS SCHOOL IS HAVING THEIRS.

AND SO...
SENOO, ARE YOU FREE ON SUNDAY?

UH...
KUNEI GIRLS SCHOOL?!
SENDO'S NOT THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB! SEND ME! ME!
NO, ME!
Whoa!
KUROKAWA, GIVE ME THAT TICKET!
Rejected
DON'T TELL ME LATER IT WAS ALL A LIE, OKAY?
YOU *DEFINITELY* WON'T, RIGHT?
HE AGREED IMMEDI-ATELY...
Okey dokey! ♫
IT SEEMS I WAS RIGHT. SENDO LIKES CUTE GIRLS, TOO.
.....

.....
HMM?
WHO ELSE IS COMING?
ARE YOU INVITING ANYONE ELSE?
.....
?
THEN ..
I'LL COME PICK YOU UP AND WE'LL GO DOWN 176
SURE.
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE SUNNY ON SUNDAY, SO IT'LL FEEL GOOD TO CRUISE AROUND IN THE OPEN AIR.
IF IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US, WE CAN GO ON MY BIKE.
TIME-WISE, IT SHOULD TAKE ABOUT..
YEAH AND I'LL GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER YOU DECIDE, OKAY?
DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR US TO GO ALONE?
JEEZ, I'VE BEEN DECIDING EVERYTHING ON MY OWN, HAVEN'T I?
don't stare at me

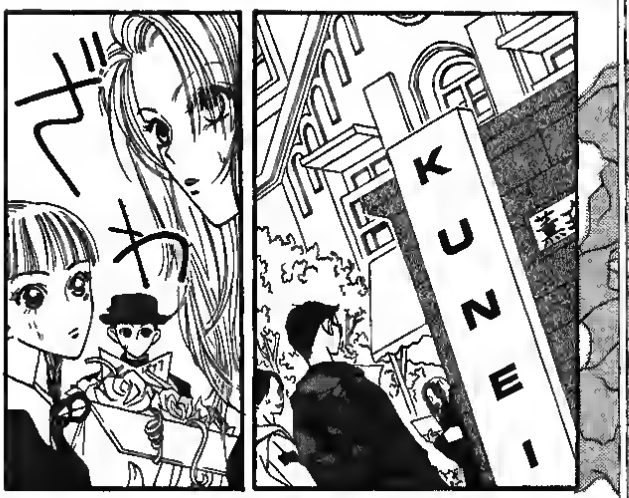
IN THAT CASE, SUNDAY!
IN THE MORNING!
I imagine it's like a bonding experience...
DO AS YOU PLEASE.
CHEF'S CHOICE.
HE SURE IS EAGER.
I'LL PICK YOU UP AT YOUR HOUSE AT NINE A.M. SHARP, SO BE READY!
OR IS THIS SOMETHING YOU'D RATHER DO WITH THE GUYS?
Oh.
I GUESS HE'S REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO ALL THOSE CUTE GIRLS
I HOPE YOU HAVE LOTS OF FUN AT KUNEI GIRLS SCHOOL.
SLAM
OH MAN
FORGIVE ME FOR ALWAYS GETTING IN THE WAY OF YOUR MALE BONDING EXPERIENCES, SENDO!
...I INVITED SENDO BOTH AS AN APOLOGY FOR THE CHEERLEADING THING AND TO HELP HIM UNWIND.
YES, TRUTH BE TOLD...


I'M SO FRICKIN' NERVOUS!
どくん
どくん
どくん
どくん
OH MAN
In the meantime, I'd better work as many shifts as I can until the sixth...
...so I can take the seventh off.
Hmm...
Ah, and before that I'd better put a tandem seat on my bike
AND THIS IS JUST HOW RILED UP THEY GET...
...OH MAN.
...FOR ANOTHER SCHOOL'S FESTIVAL.
Oh, baby baby, you're no good no more.
Yer tailpipe's hangin' low.
ANOTHER DETOUR ON THE ROAD TO LOVE.

AND SO, MAY SEVENTH HAS ARRIVED!
GOOD MORNING, SENOO!
THE SKY WAS AS CLEAR AS PREDICTED.
THE WEATHER'S GREAT AGAIN TODAY.
YROOOOOO
.....
shocked
SHH!
NINE A.M. IS STILL VERY EARLY FOR A SUNDAY MORNING!
Cover your belly

NO SQUIRTS ALLOWED THIS TIME.
キシシ
Heh heh!
Aww!
ONLY CUTE GIRLS GET TO GO.
RIGHT, SENDO?
NORMALLY IT'D BE TOO EARLY FOR ME, TOO.
BIG SIS, TAKE US, TOO!
YOU KNOW, DOESN'T THE FESTIVAL ACTUALLY START AT ELEVEN A.M.?
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET IN IF WE GET THERE EARLY.
mumble
'COURSE I KNEW THAT.
HUH?
GIVES US TIME TO CRUISE.
HOLD ON TIGHT!
WOW!

THIS IS SO MUCH FUN!
Wow, how cool
DON'T ROCK THE BIKE!
Did you see that just now?
OH YEAH, TODAY I DON'T MIND...
...IF PEOPLE SEE ME LIKE THIS, SINCE I'M CLEARLY DRESSED LIKE A GIRL.
HUH?
YOUR BACK...



...FEELS SO GREAT, I COULD HUG YOU!

SQUEENE

!

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT....

...SENDO'S DRIVING BECAME ERRATIC AND HE HAD TO SLOW DOWN AFTER THAT.

ONTO THE FESTIVITIES...

DID YOU GET MOTION SICKNESS?

Uh-oh.

ALL THAT VIBRATION MADE ME HUNGRY

Shoulda known...

MY BUTT HURTS!

There's glasses everywhere you look.
...DANCE CLUB, THEATRE CLUB, CHORUS CLUB...
FLOWER ARRANGING CLUB, TEA CEREMONY CLUB, KOTO MUSIC CLUB
IT'S JUST WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FROM AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL.
IT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM OURS.
...AND LOTS OF GAMBLING IN EMPTY CLASSROOMS.
SHADY LOOKING STALLS, HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT, THOSE CREEPY "SERVICE AREAS"...
BY THE WAY, THIS IS WHAT TAMA HIGH'S SCHOOL FESTIVAL IS LIKE.
.....
Hey.
YOU SAID YOU WERE HUNGRY, RIGHT?
HOW ABOUT WE START WITH THE CAFETERIA OR ONE OF THE FOOD BOOTHS?

CHOP
NO MAKING SCARY FACES, SENDO!
ぶんぶん
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
Hey, You, look over here and give me a big smile
WHEN IN ROME, DO AS THE ROMANS DO.
CAN'T YOU MAKE A CUTER, KINDER FACE?
AND WHAT KIND OF FACE MIGHT THAT BE?
HMM...
Nothing comes to mind.
ANYWAY, THIS IS A DAY FOR ENJOYING GIRLS!
TELL ME IF YOU FIND ANY CUTE ONES, OKAY?
I'LL SNAP THEIR PICTURE!
OH! HEY! HEY!
Say, "cheese"
Cheese!
WHAT I WANT TO ENJOY IS BEING WITH YOU...

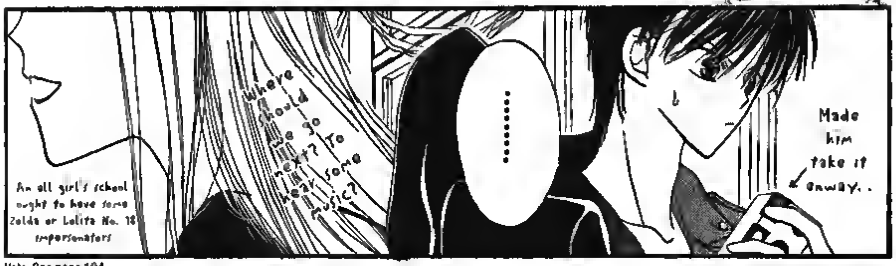
WARDROBE
I secretly wanted one even before they became the latest craze
Ten-gallon Hat
I wanted to make them brown (sob~!)
They take forever to lace
Long Boots
I love these.
Bustier
Woo-hoo~
Cutoffs!
I heard that on the splash page in the magazine these could be hidden behind two fingers!
Told to me by my friend Nobuyo Yamamoto-san, who is also in the industry.
Too bad the back isn't visible
Aizen "New Wife Apron"
Barely fit it all!

Note: See page 194

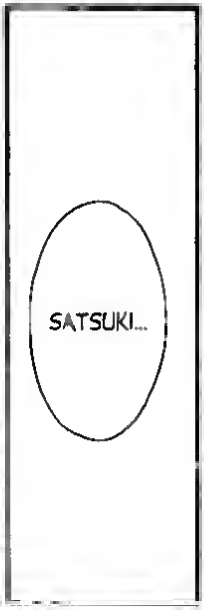
Hi! People who have made new clothes, please photocopy them and send them in to the publishers, okay? Please!

UTTERLY IGNORANT OF SENDO'S FEELINGS ON THE MATTER...
Would you like some dango?
I'll buy one for every picture you let me take of you!
A Yukata!
...SATSUKI LEADS HIM ALL OVER THE PLACE IN SEARCH OF CUTE GIRLS.
OH.

I'm sorry for not noticing
You haven't been making any requests
IT'LL BE EASIER FOR YOU TO TAKE PICTURES WHEN YOU WANT IF YOU HAVE THE CAMERA.
I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THAT.
HUH?!


An all girl's school ought to have some Zelda or Lolita No. 18 impersonators
Where should we go next? To look for some music?
.....
Made him take it away. .

Note See page 194



PON!
YOU WANT IT AS A COMMEMORATION OF OUR COMING OUT TO THIS FESTIVAL.
I GET IT!
...THAT'LL MAKE A BACKGROUND TRULY BEFITTING THE CUTE GIRL FESTIVAL.
AND, WE SHOULD GO SOMEWHERE...
SHOULDN'T WE BOTH BE IN IT THEN?
BINGO!
Lovely!
I'M SO GLAD I ASKED.
Anywhere's fine with me.
AHA!
I SMELL A NICE GIRLISH FRAGRANCE.
sniff
THIS SEEMS PROMISING...
sniff Sweet

THIS IS PERFECT. BUT I'LL BET THEY ONLY LET US USE IT IF WE BUY SOMETHING.
EXCUSE US!
Gah
SWEETS AGAIN?
SNAP
WELCOME.
ONE CAKE COMBO, PLEASE.
AND AFTERWARDS, WILL YOU TAKE OUR PICTURE?
YES, OF COURSE.
the only interest for hentai
Open wide ♡
!
CRASH
TWO...
ON THREE.
ALL RIGHT, I'M GOING TO TAKE IT NOW.

ガターン
EEK!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
You didn't have to jerk away like that
I'M SO SORRY! IT SEEMS THE TABLE WASN'T CONSTRUCTED VERY WELL.
NO, WE WERE THE ONES WHO...
I'm so sorry!
So sorry!
IF THIS WERE TAMA HIGH, THEY'D BE CHARGING US TO FIX THE TABLE.
I can't believe how nice these girls are.
I'LL FIX IT.
WOULD YOU LEND ME SOME TOOLS?
WHAT? BUT...
I'LL BE IN ONE OF THE EMPTY CLASSROOMS FOR A WHILE.
スタスタ
It really is nice to have a man around to help.
.....

You could help prepare stuff...yes.
No prob.
Um?
Oh?
What?
OKAY THEN, I GUESS I HAVE TO PAY YOU BACK, TOO...
..SO I'LL HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING UNTIL HE BRINGS BACK THE TABLE.
UM...
WHAT?
IS YOUR BOYFRIEND REALLY OKAY?
You two left him all alone.
BOYFRIEND?
OH, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG.
WE JUST CAME TO CHECK OUT CUTE GIRLS TOGETHER!
WHAT? BUT--
YEAH.
HE'S PROBABLY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF MY ABSENCE TO TAKE PICTURES OF GIRLS HE LIKES.
THAT'S A VERY ELABORATE SITUATION TO PLAN JUST TO GET A FEW PHOTOS.
PLUS, HE NEVER LOOKED AT US AT ALL.
.....
HE MUST REALLY BE IN LOVE WITH HER.

He's not my boyfriend, he's my friend

I DRAGGED SENDO AROUND EVERYWHERE THE WHOLE TIME.
I WONDER IF HE'S LOST INTEREST.
I ought to go find him
HE'S GOING TO BE IN SOME EMPTY CLASSROOM FOR A WHILE.
I'VE HAD IT WITH THOSE BOYS WHO JUST CAME IN!
WHAT HAPPENED?
THEY KEPT STARING AT ME THE WHOLE TIME...
...WHISPERING ABOUT SOMETHING AND WHISTLING AT ME.
WHO SOLD TICKETS TO THE LIKES OF THEM?!
I WON'T GO BACK OUT THERE!
CALM DOWN
THEY'RE CUSTOMERS. WE'VE GOT TO TAKE THEIR ORDER.
WELL THEN, I'LL GO.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU...
...I'D PAY YOU BACK?

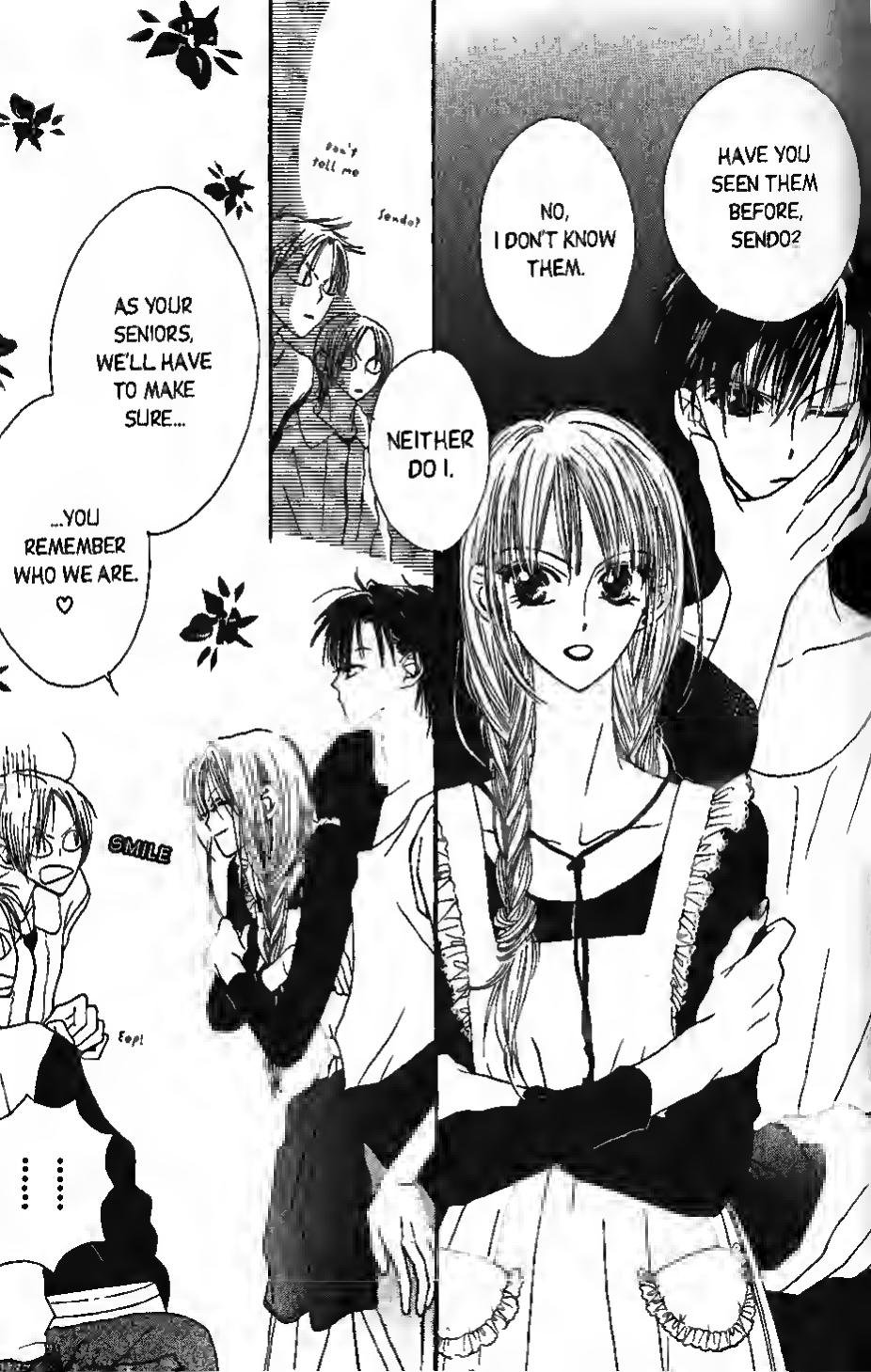
OH, HERE SHE COMES
TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.
I'LL GET IT SORTED OUT.
BUT--
I'LL SORT THIS OUT SOMEHOW.
BUT--
LEND ME AN APRON.
すいっ
YOUR ORDER?
Her hair color's changed.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER?
HMM, WHAT'LL I HAVE?
A CUTE GIRL ♡
JUST KIDDING
SO, WHAT'LL YOU HAVE?
WOULD YOU THROW ONE IN WITH MY KID'S MEAL?
WE DON'T HAVE THOSE.
HA...
HA HA HA
smile
.....
Gothic Lolita version

HAVE SOME OTHER CHICK COME AND TAKE OUR ORDER.
YOU WON'T DO.
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO *NOW*?
DON'T THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH DOING THAT TO YOUR CUSTOMERS, EITHER!
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH THE WAITRESSES ♡
OW! OW! OW! OW! OW!
THWACK
!

OH?
YOU'RE FROM TAMA HIGH?
ARE YOU FIRST YEARS?
S-SECOND.
INTER-ESTING...

What's going on?
What's happening?
ガタ
DON'T THINK WE'RE GOING TO LET YOU OFF EASY!
WE'RE FROM TAMA HIGH!

Wh-what?
They're not scared.


HAVE YOU SEEN THEM BEFORE, SENDO?
NO, I DON'T KNOW THEM.
NEITHER DO I.
Don't tell me
Sendo?
AS YOUR SENIORS, WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE SURE...
...YOU REMEMBER WHO WE ARE. ♡
SMILE
Eep!

バタバタ
I wonder what's with them...
Jeez, they've got no guts.
If you're gonna pare as Tama High students you should recognize our faces
ドカッ
PLEASE EXCUSE US!!
ヒソ
THEY SAID TAMA HIGH!
I'M SCARED.
シーン
OH BOY!
In any case...
I GUESS THAT SETTLES OUR DEBT, EH?
ヒソ
WHAT? WHY'D THEY COME TO OUR SCHOOL FESTIVAL?
SHH!
ヒソ

I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU.
ISN'T IT BECAUSE I LIKE CUTE STUFF?
THEIR FACES SAY THEY'RE WONDERING WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE.
DOES IT REALLY LOOK THAT BAD ON ME?
CUTE THINGS ARE DELICATE, SO I WANT TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
WHY AM I HERE?

SENDO?
SENDO?
YOU TOO, SENDO?
.....
!
I'M SORRY, OKAY?
TO HAVE YOU GIVING ME NASTY LOOKS TOO IS--
YOINK
THREE MINUTES OF THAT SCENT IS ALL I CAN TAKE.
Sigh!
I'M SORRY.

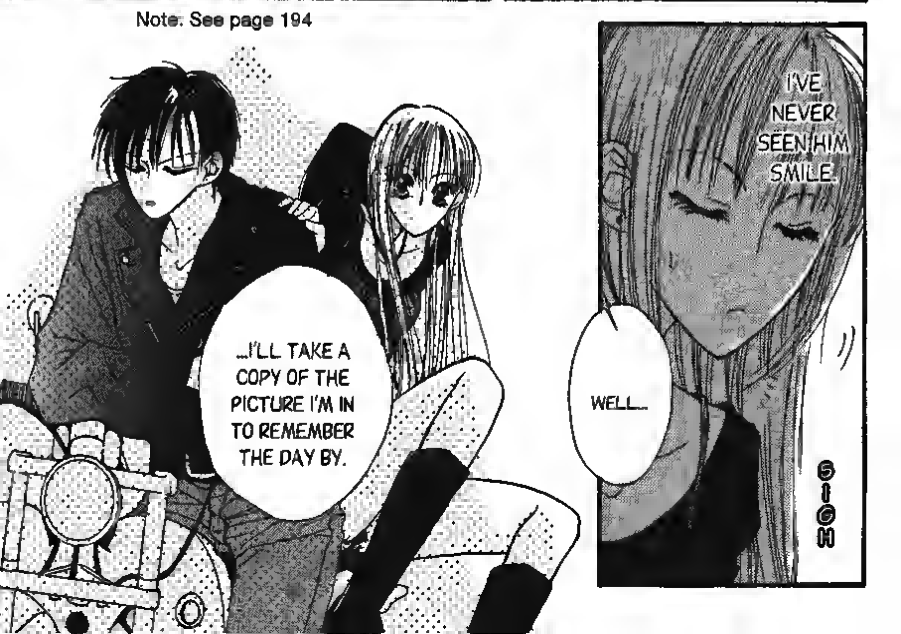
I'D RATHER BE WITH SENDO THAN THOSE CUTE GIRLS.
OKAY, NEXT LET'S GRAB SOMETHING TO EAT FROM A PLACE THAT'S NOT SERVING SWEETS!
YOU STILL WANT TO EAT?
だっ
Like sweet negiyaki
Let's head back to the south end.
Note: See page 194
YOU CAN STAY IN THERE AS LONG AS YOU WANT!
SQUEEZE
NO!
HUH?!
LET'S GO.
I WANT TO STAY WITH YOU.
MISS?!
I WONDER WHY

THANK GOODNESS, WE FOUND YOU.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.
YOU LOOKED GOOD IN THIS APRON, SO WE'RE GIVING IT TO YOU!

YOU TWO GET ALONG, OKAY?
?!
Bye-bye!
?
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
THEY MISUNDERSTOOD TO THE END
EVEN THOUGH I TOLD THEM WE WERE JUST FRIENDS.
FRIENDS?
YEAH. HERE.
HUH?
YOU MEAN YOU DIDN'T TAKE ANY PICTURES ALL THAT TIME?
The counter hasn't changed
AND JUST WHEN DID I HAVE THE TIME TO TAKE PICTURES?
I WAS FIXING THE TABLE.
SHEESH!

...IT'S OVER AND IT SEEMS I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD FUN AGAIN.
WELL...
THAT'S A SHAME, SINCE WE CAME ALL THE WAY OUT TO AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL.
Your standards must be ridiculously high.
Just what kind of girl do you like anyways?!
selfish!
GRR!
SENDO IS DIFFICULT
Just get on.
I THOUGHT THIS TIME, I'D FINALLY GET TO SEE SENDO HAPPY.
Shall I get extra prints of the girls I took pictures of?
No!

Note: See page 194



SENDO IS DIFFICULT.
WELL, NEXT TIME...
HE ALWAYS LOOKS ANGRY.
BUT...
...I'LL TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU WITH A CUTE GIRL OF YOUR TYPE.
YOU KNOW
Heh.
THAT'S A GREAT COMPROMISE.
TOO BAD THAT I'M THE ONE THAT'S IN IT WITH YOU.
LET'S GO OUT AGAIN SOMETIME.
...I ALWAYS HAVE FUN WHEN I'M WITH HIM. I WONDER WHY.

He came all the way to Awaji station to pick me up, but I can't draw his face.
Not only because my eyesight is bad, but because whenever I try to picture his face I always see one Western or Japanese musician or another.
this way.
Ed.
I WAS WAY PAST LATE.
I WAS TOO ASHAMED TO FACE MY EDITOR.
I am so sorry...
MY ABSOLUTE WORST DEADLINE (SHORT SUNZEN! CHAPTER 4)
THE TALE OF MY HORRIBLE TRIP TO TOKYO (PART 3)
Should I apply tone here?
NO.
Aargh, there pages have so much to fill in...
MY DEADLINE WAS EXTENDED AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN.
And at the same time, my editor stayed by my side to help with the lettering.
OCCUPIED THE HAKUSENSHA MEETING ROOM AND BEGAN APPLYING THE TONE.
slow
fast
Ed.
AND I, HAVING NOT EATEN SINCE THE NIGHT BEFORE, FINALLY...
AFTER THAT, THEY CALLED ME A TAXI THAT TOOK ME TO TOKYO STATION AND I MADE IT HOME AFTER MIDNIGHT.
If I sleep, I won't feel hungry.
...FELL INTO A DEEP SLEEP IN MY MESSY ROOM.
I am really very sorry.
WE FINISHED AT SEVEN P.M.
Have a nice evening.
WHERE'S THE RESTROOM?
Now that she thinks about it, she realizes that she hasn't gone since at home this morning.

KEEP OUT
Credits:
Cleaner: starriberi
QC-er: xTruToshirox
The rights for translating and editing go to:
Tokyopop

GIRL BOY
オンナノコオトコノコ
THE STUDENTS GATHERED OUTSIDE.
CHIN DOWN.
STAND UP STRAIGHT.
LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD. ALL RIGHT, NOW HOLD STILL.
ざわ
ONE GIRL AND BOY TOWERED ABOVE THE REST.
YEAR ONE, CLASS SEVEN, NUMBER TWO, KYOSHIGE ABE-SAN, 183.6 CM!
YEAR ONE, CLASS SEVEN, NUMBER 34, SATO KOMUGI-SAN, JR. 178.8 CM.

I DON'T GET IT! AND THEY'RE SAYING I'M NOT EVEN 180 CM?
THERE'S NO WAY I'M FIVE CM SHORTER THAN YOU.
WHAT?
C'MERE, ABE-KUN. PUT YOUR CHIN DOWN, STAND TALL AND FACE STRAIGHT AHEAD, OKAY?
WELL, IT'S A LUCKY NUMBER WITH THOSE DOUBLE EIGHTS
Did you hear that?
They're huge
ABE-KUN, HOW TALL DID THEY SAY YOU WERE?
183.6 CM.
THAT SEEMS A BIT SHORT.

Note: See page 194

Let's head back to the classroom
All right
The height measurement was the last thing
ABE-KUN IS THE TALLEST BOY AND I AM THE TALLEST GIRL OUT OF ALL THE NEW STUDENTS.
EVER SINCE I STARTED HIGH SCHOOL AND FIRST WALKED INTO THE CLASSROOM OUR EYES HAVE MET.
Isn't that because your eyes are at the same level?
WAIT! WAIT!
I'M SURE THE TEACHER WAS JUST BEING NICE TO ME BECAUSE I'M A GIRL AND CHANGED MY HEIGHT.

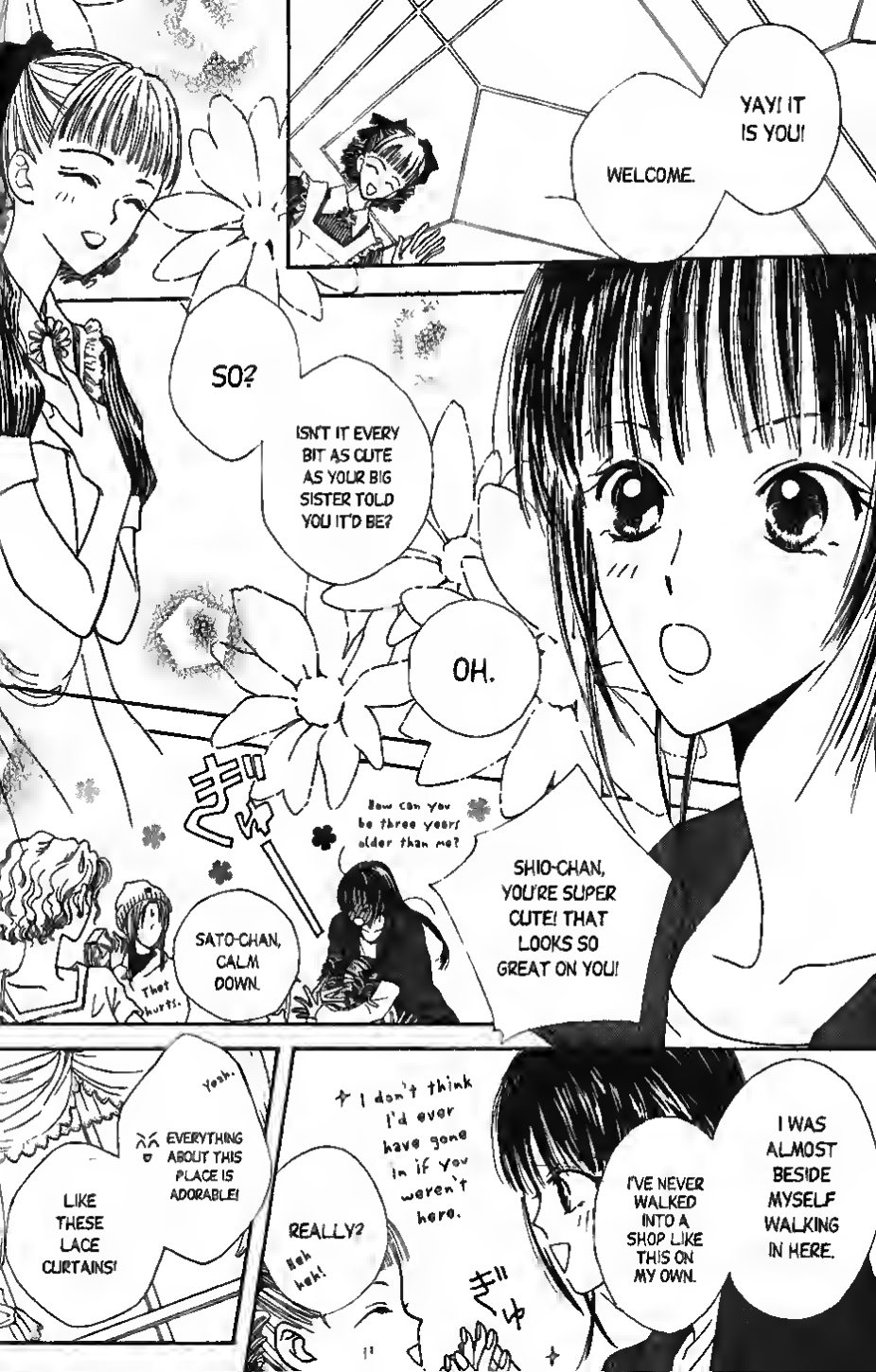
GIRL
オ♀ナベコ
PERHAPS THAT'S WHY...
Oh!
Komugi loses!
How's this?
...WE CAN'T STOP MESSING WITH EACH OTHER.
BOY
オ♂コベ

1-7
EAT YOUR OWN FOOD.
GIMME SOMETHING TO EAT
Your lunch, whatever you have.
Sis!
NO GOOD!
I ALWAYS EAT AT THE CAFETERIA...
...CAUSE I CAN'T COOK.
So I don't have a lunch
You're sure open about the fact.
I DID TRY ONCE WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
...BUT IT WAS TERRIBLE.
I CAN EASILY IMAGINE THAT.
I stopped cooking cause I was starving.
NO. GIMME A BREAK.
The noises your stomach make are excessive, too.
BEFORE WE HEAD BACK TO THE CLASSROOM, YOU WANNA STOP BY THE CAFETERIA?
It'll only take five minutes.
Komugi-chan.
IT'S TRUE THAT I'M THE ONLY GIRL ABE-KUN TALKS TO, BUT...
...THAT'S BECAUSE HE DOESN'T THINK OF ME AS A GIRL.
YOU STAND OUT BECAUSE OF MORE THAN YOUR HEIGHT--IT'S MOSTLY YOUR LOUD MOUTH AND BAD ATTITUDE.
You said it...!
Don't even argue.
Don't drag me into it.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOTTEN THE WORST OF IT.
BUT WHEN PEOPLE SAY WE'RE DATING, WE JUST LAUGH.
That's right! You tell her!
Who actually will DOUBT!
WRONG!
BUT WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER, PEOPLE ONLY PICK ON ONE OR THE OTHER OF US.

Komugi-chan! Here! Chocolate for you!
Eek! Eek!
WELL, THAT'S A STORY FOR THE FUTURE
Sorry it's for your "coming-out" party!
FOR NOW, I'M BEING CHARMED BY THIS BEAUTIFUL, GLEAMING GOLDEN TAMAGOYAKI.
Look at it.
It's just begging to eat me!
Tamagoyaki
Note See page 194
UH, THAT'S...
HM?
THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET A CUTE BRIDE MYSELF.
YOU'LL NEVER MAKE A GOOD WIFE.
YOU HAVEN'T COOKED SINCE?
Stop staring at my note!
Cut it out!
HEY! ABE-KYO! KOMUGI!
HEY, KOMUGI, BY CHANCE DO YOU...
YEAH.
Thanks
YOU LIKE?
NAW...
You had to fix my boo! Do you mind if that took one?
Jack rabbit

ARE YOU GUYS FAT ON SUNDAY? HEH, I MEAN, ARE YOU FREE?
We're looking for anyone who wants to go bowling
Hmm!
I'LL PASS. I'M BUSY, FOR ONE.
Salute!
I'VE GOT A DATE!
WHAT?!
WHOA, WHAT?!
Ow!
RIGHT. SORRY, I DIDN'T SAY ENOUGH!
CLEAR IT UP. NOW.
YOU'VE GOT A DATE? WITH ABE-KYO?!
Seriously?!
...PRETTY MUCH EVERYONE AT SCHOOL TREATS ME LIKE I WAS ONE OF THE GUYS.
What?
Well, we are talking about Abe-kyo and Kamogi here.
But I'm 178 cm, the same height as Princess Diana.
Doesn't thinking of that kinda make you feel romantic towards me?
I DON'T MIND. IT'S FUN.
Great, if you guys don't come, how will our group meet up?
Don't ignore me.
AS YOU SEE HERE...
She's tall...
...and she eats a lot.
...and promised to take me to lunch.
You see, she asked me to come to her workplace.
...WITH MY BIG SISTER. ♥
What I meant was...
I KNEW IT.

BUT EVEN SO, I AM A GIRL AFTER ALL, YOU KNOW?
THIS STORE IS OVERFLOWING WITH CUTENESS.
HOW MAGNIFICENT!
Sigh!
drowning in cuteness...
OOOH...
I SHOULD HURRY UP AND GET INSIDE.
Ack!
BEING HUGELY TALL DOES ATTRACT A LOT OF ATTENTION!
Gasp!
ARE PEOPLE STARING AT ME?
It's because you're acting weird...
BUT IT'S NO USE. MY SCHOOL FORBIDS PART-TIME JOBS...
...THEN I COULD WEAR CUTE CLOTHES, GAZE AT CUTE OBJECTS AND EAT CUTE FOODS WITHOUT ANY SHAME.
OH, IF ONLY I COULD WORK HERE...
And the inside turned out to be cute, too!
Bonn!
SATO-CHAN?


YAY! IT IS YOU!
WELCOME.
SO?
ISN'T IT EVERY BIT AS CUTE AS YOUR BIG SISTER TOLD YOU IT'D BE?
OH.
SHIO-CHAN, YOU'RE SUPER CUTE! THAT LOOKS SO GREAT ON YOU!
How can you be three years older than me?
SATO-CHAN, CALM DOWN.
That hurts.
I WAS ALMOST BESIDE MYSELF WALKING IN HERE.
I'VE NEVER WALKED INTO A SHOP LIKE THIS ON MY OWN.
I don't think I'd ever have gone in if you weren't here.
REALLY?
Ehh hehe!
EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS PLACE IS ADORABLE!
Yeah.
LIKE THESE LACE CURTAINS!

LOOKIE HERE, SHIO-CHAN
I'm wearing a dress.
I'M A FLUFFY BRIDE.
Yeah right.
Sato-chan, we're not at home
That's just not you
THERE'S CUTENESS ALL AROUND...
...SO WHAT IS ABE-KUN DOING HERE?
HEY. I WONDERED IF YOU'D BE HERE.
"Komugi" isn't a very common name.
BUT STILL, I'M SURPRISED.
NEVER IN A MILLION YEARS WOULD I HAVE EXPECTED TO SEE ABE-KUN IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!
THAT'S MY LINE!!
?
FROZEN
OH...
...don't you know?

You put on quite a show.
I'M REALLY GLAD THAT YOU'VE COME.
!
THIS IS MY HOME.
SO MORNINGS, NIGHTS, AND HOLIDAYS, I'M USUALLY HERE IN THE SHOP.
YOU'RE ROTTEN, ABE-KUN!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU KNEW SHIO-CHAN?
IF I HAD SAID SOMETHING, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME, WOULD YOU?
I can tell from your reaction.
BUT! BUT! BUT!
NORMALLY I WEAR A TOUGH, UNFEMININE FACE FOR PEOPLE... HOW CAN I SAY THAT I LIKE CUTE THINGS? EEK! HE EVEN SAW ME PRETENDING TO BE A BRIDE!
IDIOT!
Sato-chan?
WHY DID I HAVE TO ACT TOUGH EVEN THEN? I'M PATHETIC.

AND SO, MONDAY ARRIVED.
I FIGURED ABE-KUN WOULD GIVE ME A HARD TIME.
THINKING ABOUT HOW TO FACE HIM...
had kept me preoccupied, but I found him sleeping.
I feel somewhat relieved.
.....
I GUESS HE'S TIRED.
ゴト
Oh my!
Whoa!
!
ABE-KUN?!
AND JUST HOW AM I GOING TO DEAL WITH HIM AFTER I WAKE HIM UP?
KOMUGI-SA...
わき
わき

That surprised me.
WHOA!
ARE YOU FREE THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW?
HUH?
YEAH.
Eep! I knew it.
HE WANTS ME TO HELP AT THE SHOP?!
AWRIGHTY, THEN. I'LL GIVE HIM ALL I'VE GOT!
TRYING TO RESOLVE MATTERS THROUGH EFFORT AND ENTHUSIASM
ALL RIGHT.
QUIET BACK THERE IN CLASS!!
IS HE PLANNING TO BLACKMAIL ME INTO BEING HIS SLAVE?
That's gotta be it.
HELP ME OUT A BIT ON WEDNESDAY.
WHY?
I wonder...

THEN...
...ON WEDNESDAY...
SO, WHAT IS THIS?
.....
In these seats over here. Look
A CAKE SHOP.
There're two heads jutting above the divider!
What, a gay couple?!
Why am I sitting at a table face to face with Abe-kun?
I MEAN...
...WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?
Ah darn, our eyes just met again.
RESEARCH.
Come with hair tied back in preparation for work
We're in ANOTHER cute shop...
AND THIS AREA HAS A LOT OF RECENTLY RENOVATED SHOPS.
Our shop is closed on Wednesdays
BUT, EVEN IN THE NAME OF RESEARCH...
...DOESN'T HE FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE, AS A MAN, TO BE AT THIS CAKE SHOP, SINCE IT'S NOT OWNED BY HIS FAMILY?
AND WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME, NO LESS
SOUNDS JUST LIKE A SON OF CAFÉ OWNERS

Boring!
HMM...
I'LL HAVE BLACK COFFEE.
Acting like a three-year-old is what got me into trouble on Sunday.
WELL THEN, I'M READY TO ORDER
Okay!
YES?
OMIGOSH, YEAH!
WHAT'S GOING THROUGH HIS HEAD?
WHAT'LL YOU HAVE, KOMUGI?
I'LL HAVE THE COFFEE AND CAKE COMBO.
YES!
HE'S SERIOUSLY HAVING CAKE?!
Excuse me, another piece of cake over here.
Sure.
Urk.
"Sweet Aroma"
Sorry to keep you waiting.
Urk.
Urk.
I'LL HAVE APPLE CASSIS TEA...
...AND AS FOR CAKE, I'D LIKE THE BERRY MOUND AND THE CARAMEL MOOSE.
Urk.
WHY'D YOU START BY EATING THE STRAWBERRIES?!
Huh?!
HEY!!

EMPHATIC
YOU'VE GOT TO SAVOR IT...
AND YOU'RE EATING WAY TOO FAST!
YOU'RE BUTCHERING THAT CAKE WITHOUT A THOUGHT OF ETIQUETTE!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO LEAVE THE DECORATIONS FOR LAST SO YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO EATING THEM!
Oh.
Is that so?
SO, KOMUGI...
...YOU REALLY DO LIKE THIS SORT OF THING.
こぶし
EVEN THOUGH I DON'T LOOK THE TYPE.
WHEN I LOOK AT CUTE THINGS, I START WANTING TO STARE AT THEM, TO TOUCH THEM...
...TO HUG THEM TIGHT AND WORSE.
THAT'S RIGHT!

I WAS SOMEWHAT MOVED WHEN YOU GRABBED MY TAMAGOYAKI.
I WONDERED IF WE, PERHAPS, HAVE SIMILAR TASTES
I PUT THREE TABLESPOONS OF SUGAR INTO THAT TAMAGOYAKI.
Three tablespoons...
Is that sooo...?
MOST PEOPLE DON'T LIKE TO EAT TAMAGOYAKI THAT'S AS SWEET AS CANDY.
You ate it without hesitation.
Ah
SORRY.
He... He laughed at me
HEH.
I MUST CONFESS SOMETHING, TOO.
HUH?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I'VE BEEN AROUND THIS SORT OF ENVIRONMENT FOR A LONG TIME. THIS SORT OF STUFF IS MY SPECIALTY.
WHAT?
ALSO, I'M REALLY GOOD WITH MY HANDS AND HAVE ALWAYS MADE MY OWN LUNCH.

.....
...HE WAS LOOKING AT ME...
...WITH SUCH A SOFT AND SWEET EXPRESSION THAT I--MM...
UNEXPECT-EDLY...
COME ON.
WE CAME OUT HERE IN THE NAME OF RESEARCH, RIGHT?
EAT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT, LIKE ME.
MMM!

I don't drink black coffee.
I have to put in tons of milk and sugar before I can stand it.
HOLY MOLEY! HOLY MOLEY!
IT'S...
Did you like that?!
Yeah!!
Eep!
ISN'T IT?
delicious
Then you're not really drinking it.
AAH
EEK! AN INDIRECT KISS!
WHY ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT THAT WITH ABE-KUN?
Reprimanding herself
?
Note See page 194
Komugi, you should order more too...
...I CAN'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE.
EVER SINCE I TOOK THAT BITE..
WHAT'S GOING ON?

To the north
Why do you find the Marui building so lovely? There's a lot of stuff at Aoyama, too.
It's definitely the best!
HA
AND AFTER THAT, ON WEDNESDAYS...
...WE WENT SHOPPING AFTER SCHOOL.
Note See page 194
AUX
To the south
AH.
KOMUGI, TRY IT.
SLUMP
BUT AT SCHOOL, IT'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
I WONDER IF ABE-KUN HAS ALWAYS WANTED SOMEONE HE COULD ACT THIS WAY WITH, TOO.
もぐもぐ
Mmm
Good?

KOMUGI-SA...
Oh, you're awake?
WHEN ARE YOU COMING TO MY PLACE?
WHAT?!
WHY?
Quiet back there in class seven!
What?
So those two really ARE together?
Oh! Sorry
LAST TIME YOU LEFT RIGHT AFTER ARRIVING
YOU COULDN'T TELL WHETHER WE WERE GOOD OR CRAPPY FROM JUST THAT
whisper
Yikes
I thought we could start from scratch
Already sleeping...
Sorry! Abe-kun
That's right we've never had fun at your place
I'LL RESERVE A SEAT FOR YOU
?
Ah! My heart's pounding in anticipation.
UH...
AFTER SCHOOL, THEN.
OKAY..
That was pretty quick.
Did you hear that?
So, they're finally moving on to THAT kind of relationship today.

HE REALLY DOES CARE ABOUT HIS SHOP.
NOT THAT I BLAME HIM.
HE'S FILLED THE PLACE WITH CUTE THINGS TO MAKE IT SUPER ADORABLE.
Kotra +1
OH.
ABE-KUN?
WHO...
...WERE THOSE GIRLS JUST NOW?

THEY'RE– THEY'RE AWFULLY CUTE, AREN'T THEY?
HUH?
UH, WELL...
...YEAH. WHAT ABOUT YOU?
ARE THEY SO MUCH YOUR TYPE THAT YOU HAD TO RUN OVER HERE TO TELL ME?
UH...
AH, SORRY.
Everyone Has Dumbo Ears
DON'T PUT THIS OFF ON ME.
I LIKE WHEN PEOPLE GET THE CAKE THEY LIKE BEST.
That's all.
I WAS ONLY TELLING THEM ABOUT THE SPECIAL OF THE DAY.
I...
Excuse me, I'd like to order something else!
Over here!
Me!

I...
TRUTHFULLY, I NEVER EVEN LOOKED AT THOSE GIRLS' FACES.
.....
Whee!
Yay!
WHA...
WHAT DD I DD?
Eek!
Eek!
Um...
KOMUGI, I'LL TAKE YOU TO YOUR SEAT--
HUH?
HUH?

I'M JUST KIND OF OVERWHELMED AND GIDDY.
IT'S NOTHING
You're blushing
Whoa.
WHAT IS IT?
I'LL BE WORKING, SO TAKE YOUR TIME.
THIS WAY.
HAVE A SEAT OVER HERE.
HE NOTICED.
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE I'M SO EXCITED TO BE HERE.
Heh heh!
THOUGH, OF COURSE, I'D BE THRILLED IF YOU LIKED THE SHOP.
Don't go overboard
I LOVE ABE-KUN'S FACE.
Thanks goodness Hakuado hasn't been discovered

I WANT TO LOOK AT HIM ALL THE TIME.
DESPITE ALL THE CUTENESS SURROUNDING ME, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE.
BUT NOT WHEN HE'S PAYING ATTENTION TO OTHER GIRLS.
THAT'S IT!!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
My glasses, my glasses!
IT CAME FROM THE KITCHEN!
OH MY!
I KEEP WISHING ABE-KUN WAS EATING ACROSS FROM ME.
despite all the food decked out before her...
.....
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE EXCEPT ON WEDNESDAYS.
ONCE A WEEK.

SATO-CHAN?
ACK.
OH.
MY LUNCH FOR TOMORROW.
HOW ABOUT I MAKE YOU WIDER, MITSU?
Oh dear
Back-to bed
MIDNIGHT SNACKS ARE ONLY GONNA MAKE YOU TALLER, SIS.
SATO, WHAT ARE YOU COOKING IN THE MICROWAVE?
HOW ABOUT I GRAB THAT MOUTH OFF YOUR FACE AND SOAK IT IN TABASCO SAUCE?
GZ-D
It's done
Have you forgotten how horrid all your other cursed concoctions were?
THAT'S A WASTE OF INGREDIENTS AND ENERGY
BOOM
DON'T BOIL EGGS IN THE MICROWAVE!
But flames are dangerous...
You are dangerous!
IN SPITE OF THIS...

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME, IT'S LUNCHTIME ALREADY?!
BONG
BONG
SOMEHOW...
BING
BING
...ON THE NEXT DAY, SOMEHOW...
1-7
I THOUGHT IF I BROUGHT MY OWN LUNCH, IT'D GIVE US AN EXCUSE TO EAT TOGETHER!
GOOD MORNING!
IS HE HERE OR NOT?!
I HOPE ABE-KUN IS STILL EATING IN THE CLASSROOM!
huff
huff
I ALWAYS SEE HIM FIRST THING...
HUH?!
..ABE-KUN... IS NOT HERE.
What do you mean by good morning?
HUH? Isn't noon the time for lunch?
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
♫ KOMUGI-CHAN!
A bit too enthusiastic, there—

ALL RIGHT!
WE'LL LOOK INSIDE AND THAT WILL TELL US!
WHAT?
IF IT'S JAPANESE FOOD, HER MOTHER MADE IT. WESTERN FOOD, THEN IT WAS HER SISTER.
IT'S DEAR BIG SISTER'S.
SO WHADDAYA THINK IT IS? HER MOTHER'S CREATION?
MAYBE IT'S FROM A GIRL IN A DIFFERENT CLASS HA HA!
HEH. IT'S POSSIBLE.
Yes, who could've made it?
I can't tell them I made it...
Oh, how cute it's wrapped in bunnies.
A LUNCH? WHAT A RARE EVENT.
HEY!
AND IF THERE'S A LOVE NOTE INSIDE IT, THEN IT'S FROM HER HONEY!!
It's decided then!!
NO!
C'mon, c'mon.
WAIT--
WELL
THIS HAS GOT TO BE YOUR WORK!
1-7
BWA HA HA HA!
WHY YOU, KOMUGI!

Migrating for sushi

ARGHH! SHUT UP!!
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT'S THIS BLACK CRUD?
WHY ARE THE CROQUETTES ALL BROKEN UP?
Whatever could it be?
You're totally formed into balls, Aya.
ぱーん
ヒッ
ひゃ
ひゃ
?
Outta my way! Gimme that! Give it back! And cover it up!
YOU'RE RUINING IT!
Don't you mean fixing it?!
Got it?
Got it?
きゃーむ
HMPH! SAY WHAT YOU WANT, I DON'T CARE!
ふん
OUCH.
WHAT ARE YOU SWINGING AROUND?
HMM? A LUNCH BOX?
BLOODY HELL
WATCH OUT

YOU IDIOTS!! DON'T DRAW HIS ATTENTION TO IT!!
Eek!
NO WAY!!
...YOUR WONDERFUL CREATION.
SHOW ABE-KYO...
OH, HEY KOMUGI!
That's not it
Shaddup
Damn long potty break
NEVER MIND THAT KOMUGI, ABOUT YESTERDAY...
OOPS
SORRY
WHERE'D YOU GO ABE-KYO?
YOU DISAPPEARED RIGHT AFTER FOURTH PERIOD.
What are they, newlyweds?
I was waiting to eat with you.
GOSH DARN IT!

...THIS IS NOTHING
IT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH...
...TO GIVE YOU
Why do you keep trying to run off?
HA HA... UH...
...TO SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO IS USED TO CUTE AND DELICIOUS FOOD...
YOU MADE IT YOURSELF?
UH, YEAH, BUT...
THIS ISN'T MY LUNCH.
L-LAST NIGHT, I WAS TOTALLY STARVING.
I SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN YOU SOMETHING FROM A CONVENIENCE STORE OR A RAMEN STAND.
BUT I WAS IN SUCH A HURRY I THOUGHT I'D MAKE SOMETHING FROM THE STUFF I HAD ON HAND. OF COURSE, IT WAS A DISASTER.

HA HA
HA HA
WELL, PIGS WILL FLY BEFORE I EVER TRY TO COOK AGAIN, SINCE MY SECOND ATTEMPT TURNED OUT JUST AS POORLY AS THE FIRST.
MY MOM WOULD MAKE A FUSS ABOUT WASTING FOOD IF SHE FOUND IT IN THE GARBAGE AT HOME...
BOO!
HISS
IDIOT! THE STENCH IS STARTING TO FILL UP THE ROOM
Jeez, Kamuy!
SO SORRY. I'LL GO THROW IT AWAY THIS INSTANT.
All right.
You're always good for a laugh, Kamuy!
WHY?

WHY DO I TALK ABOUT MYSELF THIS WAY?
AND I TRIED TO PICK THE BEST-LOOKING ITEMS OUT OF EVERYTHING I MADE TO PUT IN HERE, TOO
I WAS HOPING THIS WOULD MAKE ABE-KUN HAPPY.
JEEZ...
WHAT A STUPID THING TO THINK.
I'M SO PATHETIC
IT'S FUNNY.
WHEN I START WALKING, EVERYTHING GETS BLURRY

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
Yow!
!
EVERYONE ALWAYS MESSES WITH ME AND MAKES A BIG DEAL OUT OF EVERYTHING I DO
So I...
Here goes!
forcing herself to hold back her tears
WHY?
AM I REALLY THIS WEAK?
OH NO! MY FACE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHERE AM I GOING?
LIKE I SAID...TO THROW THIS AWAY.
OH NO!
OH NO!
...MUST LOOK AWFUL.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? GOING TO THE BATHROOM AGAIN?
I said I didn't go to the bathroom.
NOW SEE HERE.
SINCE YOU TOOK YOUR SWEET TIME GETTING HERE...
...I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU HAD AN UPSET STOMACH OR SOMETHING BECAUSE OF THE WAY YOU ATE YESTERDAY.
I WENT TO CALL YOUR HOUSE TO SEE IF YOU WENT HOME...
but no one answered
USUALLY I CAN'T HELP BUT SEE THAT HEAD OF YOURS...
...SO IT WAS A STRANGE FEELING NOT TO SEE IT TODAY.

AH...
THE REASON I CAME LATE...
...WAS BECAUSE I WAS MAKING YOUR...
.....
WHAT WILL IT MATTER IF I SAY IT?
SHOULD I TELL HIM THAT I MADE THIS LUNCH BECAUSE I WANTED TO EAT IT WITH HIM?
WHAT...
...DID YOU MAKE?
THAT I LIKE HIM?
WHEN THIS IS THE RESULT OF MY BEST EFFORTS?
SINCE I'M THROWING IT AWAY, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHAT'S INSIDE, DOES IT?
AFTER ALL, ISN'T THE ONLY REASON ABE-KUN PAYS ME ANY ATTENTION IS BECAUSE WE'RE BOTH SO TALL AND CAN DO THE THINGS WE LIKE TOGETHER?
.....
WHY AM I HOPING FOR MORE THAN THAT?
I'LL JUST BE TROUBLING HIM AND MYSELF, TOO
I DON'T WANT TO BE LAUGHED AT OR EXPERIENCE THAT *BLURRY* FEELING ANYMORE...
WHERE ARE YOU GETTING RID OF THAT?

HUH?
WANT ME TO THROW IT AWAY FOR YOU?
GIVE IT HERE.
N--
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW HARD I WORKED TO MAKE THAT!
NO!
DON'T TALK SO CASUALLY ABOUT THROWING IT AWAY!
IF IT WAS IMPORTANT TO YOU...

...YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO FROM THE BEGINNING
TO ME AT LEAST.
We've known each other a while now
A-Again?
THERE'S NO WAY I'D THROW IT OUT
WHAT?
That'd be a shame, right?
BUT YOU SAID YOU'D DISPOSE OF IT
INTO THE DEPTHS OF MY STOMACH.
HEY! HEY! HEY!
Gotcha
We're both tall so we have huge, deep stomachs...
I GUESSED BY THE SMELL AND I WAS RIGHT
TAMAGOYAKI BURNS EASILY WHEN YOU PUT IN A LOT OF SUGAR LIKE THIS
OH...
Is that right?
It's no wonder that it turned completely black
YEAH...
BUT WITH ALL THAT SUGAR, IT SHOULDN'T HAVE CRUMBLED SO EASILY
.....
Crumbled
Being sorry around didn't help
Hmm
WELL, IF THEY CRUMBLE, YOU CAN ALWAYS SCRAMBLE THEM.
AS FOR THE CROQUETTES, YOU JUST PUT THEM INTO THE OIL TOO EARLY.
Let's see
AND AS FOR THE OKONOMIYAKI...
You're hopeless!
...BECAUSE YOU PUT IN STARCH INSTEAD OF FLOUR, SILLY
...It's unplanned like this...
UH.

I DON'T KNOW.
YOU SMILE LIKE THAT AND SAY THOSE THINGS SO EASILY.
OH, AND I'LL BE YOUR TASTE-TESTER.
BECAUSE OUR TASTES ARE SIMILAR, AS YOU KNOW.
KEEP AT IT AND NO TALKING OF GIVING UP.
AND SO WILL YOU KOMUGI.
STILL...
...I CAN'T REALLY TALK SINCE I MADE THE SAME MISTAKES MYSELF WHEN I STARTED TO COOK
I GOT BETTER WITH PRACTICE.
IT MAY BE NO BIG DEAL TO YOU, BUT I GROW EMOTIONAL, DEPRESSED AND EMPTY
I FIND...
...EATING ALL SORTS OF STUFF WITH YOU FUN AND DELICIOUS
SEE? I'M SUDDENLY FILLED WITH FEELINGS FOR YOU-AGAIN.
IF THIS GOES ON, I'LL SURELY-
WHAM
THEN, PROMISE ME...

ONE DAY, I'M GONNA BE GOOD ENOUGH TO SATISFY THAT STOMACH OF YOURS!
SO...
...WOULD YOU...
...TEACH ME A LITTLE?
THIS IS...
...THE BEST I CAN DO NOW.
YEAH.

WHEN I'M WITH ABE-KUN, I START FEELING ALL GIRLY.
IT'S KINDA HARD TO ADMIT, BUT...
...I ONLY WANT TO THINK ABOUT ABE-KUN
AND I HOPE HE'LL THINK ONLY OF ME.
IF I BECOME GOOD AT COOKING I WONDER IF MY HANDS WILL BECOME A BIT PRETTIER, TOO...
...PRETTIER, MORE FEMININE HANDS HE'LL WANT TO HOLD
IT'S NO USE.
WHAT?
Bright red!
しっかり
WHAT?!
HUH?

IF WE HOLD HANDS, THEN...
...WHAT'S NEXT...
How strange
I can't walk like this
ABE-KUN, YOU'RE PULLING MY HAND BACKWARDS
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE HEADED BACK TO THE CLASSROOM.
ABE-KUN...
...YOU ATE MY WHOLE LUNCH, SO I'M SO HUNGRY I CAN BARELY STAND!
...SO WE CAN BECOME MORE THAN JUST FRIENDS.
THOUGH WE MAY NOT BE A PERFECT FIT NOW...
...I'LL DO MY BEST...
...BUT TO GROW CLOSER AND CLOSER?
Just like a dog!
Awoo! feed me!
がか
がか
GIRL BOY / END

KEEP OUT
Credits:
Cleaner: starriberi
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The rights for translating and editing go to:
Tokyopop

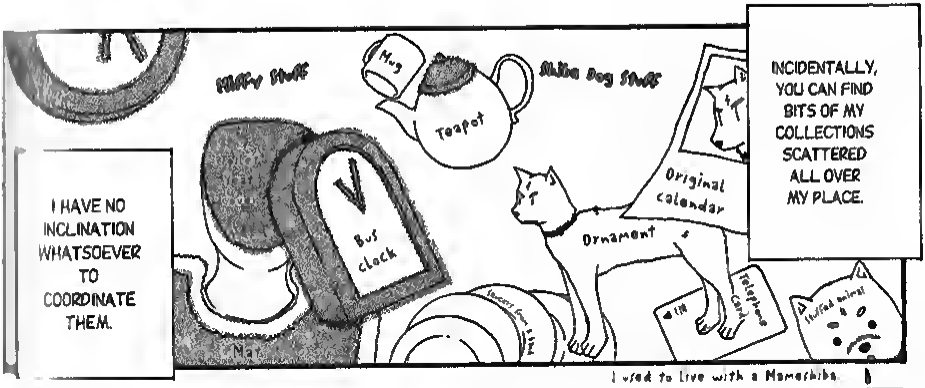
消灯寸前
LIGHTS OUT! SUNZEN
ONE SUNDAY NIGHT IN A CITY IN OSAKA PREFECTURE...
Note: For terms in this chapter, see glossary, page 194
OUTSIDE, A DOG BARKS.
WHAT IS IT, MARI?
I've taken over the living room to work as I finish the last pages of my book.
A friend?
Sitting cross-legged
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
THAT'S MY DOG THAT'S BARKING.
SHE'S A GOLDEN RETRIEVER AND HER NAME IS MARIKO
Used to be my sister's dog
Her doghouse has two glass windows.

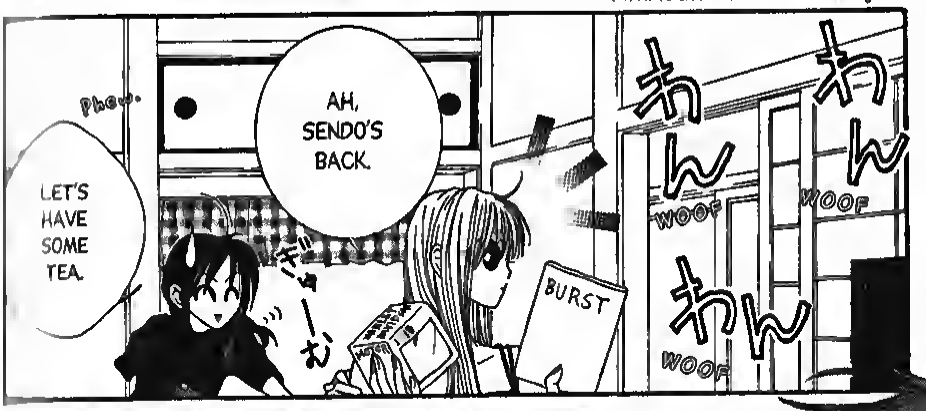
* Delivering her lines in unmodified Osaka dialect
COULD IT POSSIBLY BE...?
SHE WON'T QUIT BARKING FOR ANYTHING
WOOF
WOOF
THE DOOR BUZZER ISN'T WORKING, IS IT?
I know it!
AHA, AS I THOUGHT IT'S UNPLUGGED.
It won't ring like that, I know!
Ha ha ha!
Ha ha...
(I look like my mother plugged the vacuum cleaner out there.)
THOUGHT I'D DROP BY.
THIS RECKLESS, BRASH VISITOR IS SATSUKI KUROKAWA.
NAW, WE STOPPED BY CAUSE WE WERE IN THE AREA.
SO, DID YOU GUYS JUST COME BY TO TAKE MY DOG OUT FOR A PEE?
OH YEAH, IT HAS GOTTEN QUIET, HASN'T IT?
HE TOOK THE DOG OUT TO DO ITS BUSINESS.
ARE YOU ALL ALONE? WHERE'S SENDO?

NO! DON'T OPEN THE DOOR ON THE LEFT!
ガラ
どか
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THAT. LEND ME SOME MANGA!
どか
ACK!
WHEN GUESTS COME OVER, SAKURAI'S ROOM BECOMES THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.
Rats!
.....
IT'S PRETTY MESSY IN HERE.
I'D HAVE TO TAKE AT LEAST FIVE DAYS OF VACATION JUST TO CLEAN IT.
THE CLUTTER IS SO BAD I'D HAVE TO GET RID OF A LOT OF STUFF TO ORGANIZE THE REST.

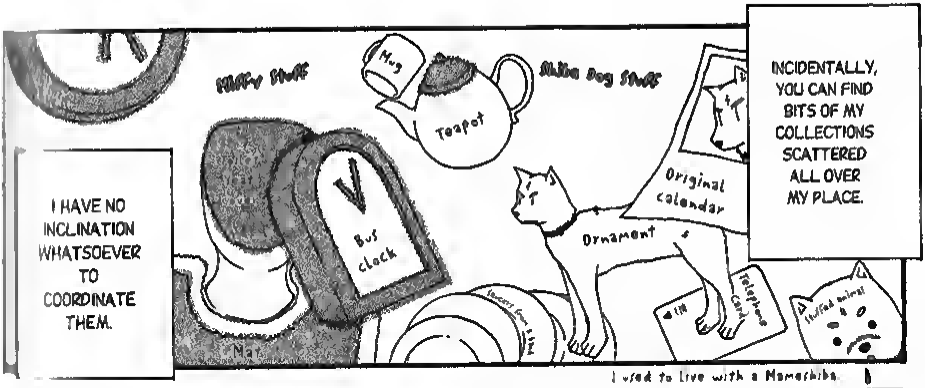
Oh!
Ack!
THOSE ARE–
THEY'RE, UM–
IN THAT CORNER THERE'S...
Eek!
It's not like I'm hiding anything I feel guilty about.
ガサ
ガサ
Whatever.
I'M GONNA BORROW SOME MANGA ANYWAY.
I DON'T REALLY GET THIS
Shoujo Tsubaki
THE LAST TIME I COUNTED, SOME 10 YEARS AGO, I HAD MORE THAN 2000 VOLUMES
I do have taste, though!
Blood Beast
FROM SHOUJO TO EROTIC AND GROTESQUE, I READ PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING
MY COLLECTION, PART ONE– MANGA.
My new hobby
The Absolutely Safe Razor
Golden Brocade
I'm well-read, but it's mostly manga.
Like the Bloodthirsty Butchers?
Lend me some good ones.
Ah!!
AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, CDS TOO! YOU GOT ANYTHING NEW?
Hmm
SOMETHING BESIDES BLANQUI AND STALIN, RIGHT?
Satsuki likes punk music a lot. Sometimes she makes songs up on her own, as you may have noticed...
OH WELL, NEVER MIND ABOUT THOSE.
IF I WERE TO CLEAN THIS ROOM, I THINK I'D START BY THROWING OUT THE BOOKS OVER HERE.
I'LL LEND YOU THESE ONES
Go! Gakutora Guys!
Motor Rocks
Fireball Boy
Legend of Rolling Wheels
Hooray!
!!!!

I like Yamnachetta Bushi and Go Westー
MAKI SHINJI?
THE DRIFTERS?
GUITAR WOLF
UH...
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE THAT SORT OF STUFF AROUND EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.
And I also like furniture.
MY COLLECTION PART 2: CDS
The ones that don't fit are in buckets and cardboard boxes
ALL I KNOW IS THAT I HAVE MORE THAN WILL FIT ON MY SHELVES THEY HOLD 300 CDS.
MY COLLECTION IS PRIMARILY PUNK, FOLK, ALTERNATIVE ROCK, CHILDREN'S SONGS, AND SHOUKA, WITH SOME FOLK DANCE THROWN IN. IT'S SPLIT INTO HALF WESTERN MUSIC AND HALF JAPANESE MUSIC.
I also have a set of katakana and hiragana characters.
My favorites are Victor the Dog, Wachi Field and Lemon Panna.
FOUR B4-SIZED DRAWERS FILLED WITH RUBBER STAMPS.
Jeez.
Almost anything...
...catches my eye.
ABOUT TEN FOLDERS FULL OF STAMPS FROM JAPAN AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.
MY COLLECTION, MISCELLANEOUS
Peter Pan
Saber
Pyrus
Bread
Party Time
Ring
This stuffed animal is so cute! Adorable!
MY COLLECTION OF STATIONERY SETS TAKES UP THREE BOOKSHELVES AND TWO DRAWERS OF A WARDROBE.
It is primarily comprised of flower and plaid-patterned designs.
My Peyton Place sets are cute!
I picked the cutest one.
GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU
TENOHIRA OUMA
My collection may be a bit overboard, but it makes me happy


I HAVE NO INCLINATION WHATSOEVER TO COORDINATE THEM.
Fluffy Stuff
Mug
Teapot
Shiba Dog Stuff
Bus clock
Original calendar
Ornament
Telephone Card
Stuffed animal
INCIDENTALLY, YOU CAN FIND BITS OF MY COLLECTIONS SCATTERED ALL OVER MY PLACE.
I used to live with a Mameshiba.


Phew.
LET'S HAVE SOME TEA.
AH, SENDO'S BACK.
BURST
わん
WOOF
わん
WOOF
わん
WOOF

Sender
YOU'RE ANGRY BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH I'M THE AUTHOR, I FORGOT?
Don't look at me.
I SAID, "THAT'S NOT IT!"
OH THAT'S RIGHT, YOU HATE SWEETS, DON'T YOU?
Unlike Komugi and Abe.
THAT'S NOT IT.
JAL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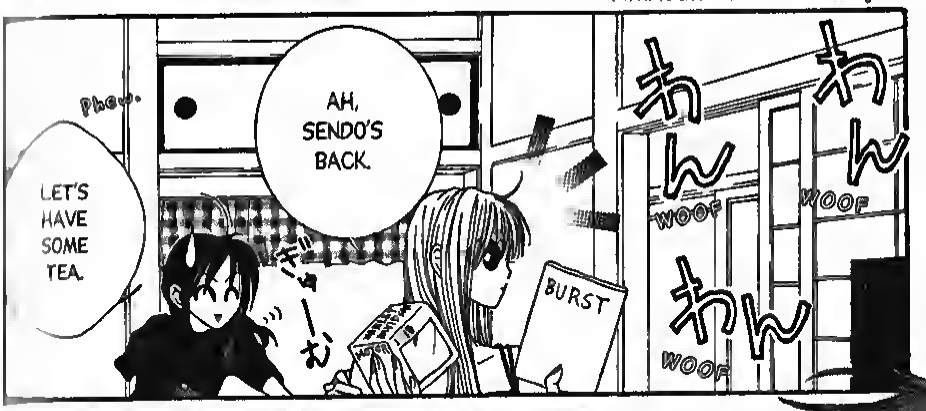
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I SAID THAT'S NOT IT!
OH THAT'S RIGHT, YOU HATE SWEETS, DON'T YOU?
Unlike Komugi and Abe.
THAT'S NOT IT.
JAL

IT'S ABOUT TIME I GOT BACK TO WORK ON MY BOOK...
WHAT? IS THAT SO?
YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING EARLIER.
This is no time for eating anko.
to tell you the truth.
WHO EATS BOWLFULS OF ANKO WITH A SPOON?
My Mom Made It.
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!
PFFT
WE'LL HELP YOU. ♡
SHALL WE DO SOME ERASING? OR SOME INKING? OR TONING?
Caught

Are my mother and I strange?

↑ If knowing the terms was all that you needed, then she'd be great

And so...

HEY, THAT'S NOT DRY. DON'T TOUCH IT!

Erasing

Inking

SATSUKI, YOU'RE GONNA CUT THROUGH THE PAGES AND THE DRAWING BOARD!

Toning

DON'T SIT ON THE PAGES!

They're getting wrinkled.

UTTER CHAOS

DID YOU RIDE YOUR MOTORCYCLE HERE? IT'S A BIT LATE TO RIDE HOME.
I'VE GOT SOME FUTONS STACKED UPSTAIRS SO YOU'RE WELCOME TO SLEEP A BIT AND GO HOME IN THE MORNING.
You've done enough work. I'm sure you're exhausted
SILENT
And you're sick.
SENDO YOU'RE WORKING REALLY HARD
Hey.
SATSUKI.
WHADDAYA THINK?
GUESS WE'LL STAY.
GOOD NIGHT!
Hmph!
And make sure you do
I HAVE TWO FUTONS, SO YOU CAN SLEEP SEPARATELY.

THE DEAD OF NIGHT
3:00 A.M.
Crap, I'm falling asleep.
ゴチ
うと
THE CRACK OF DAWN
5:00 A.M.
I'll just sleep for a moment...
Pillow equipped
THE EARLY MORNING
6:00 A.M.
Unh, I slept an hour!!
THE MORNING
7:00 A.M.
Crap, I've got to jump in the shower and get ready for work.
Arf! Arf!
Mommy's off to work.
THE COMMUTE
8:00 A.M.
わん
WOOF
YEAH...I'VE GOTTA WORK ON THEM DURING LUNCH.
DON'T GET INTO AN ACCIDENT ON YOUR BIKE.
YOU WRITE US, AFTER ALL. OUR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS.
HUH?!
YOU'RE TAKING PAGES TO WORK WITH YOU?

You're gotta be careful
What happened to your finger, Sendo? Did you cut it with the tuna knife?
.....
SO THAT'S WHY SENDO WAS HELPING ME AS IF HIS LIFE DEPENDED ON IT.

HOW SWEET...

WILL MY BOOK EVER BE FINISHED?

Many Thanks

I'm writing this in the last possible place. As always, I'm struggling. No matter what I do, I'm a dunce. Oh yeah, I haven't expressed my appreciation yet... let's start this over.

Thank you for coming on this journey with me.

To all of you reading this right now, to those of you who always support me, to those of you who came to help me with my book, to everyone at work who overlooked my horrible attendance record and to my friends, family and editors who, no matter how much I inconvenienced them, remained extremely patient with me. I am really really reaaaaaally full of remorse and gratitude. More than I can express in writing here...

Well, a few things have changed in the many days I spent drawing this manga. I'm now working from home. And my older sister finally came to take her doggie home with her after a period of several years. But I have no time to complain about being lonely. As usual, I'm struggling. No matter what I do, I'm a dunce at it. (I have a feeling I'll be saying that all my life.)

I hope you'll be patient with me. As always, I'm in your hands. *bow*

If you have any complaints--I mean feedback--after reading this book (that includes the paper doll clothes) send them to the Hana to Yume Editorial Department, care of Susugi Sakurai.

…カ

GLOSSARY

WELCOME TO OSAKA

Osaka, where Satsuki Kurokawa and Aya Sendo Iiva, is a very special place in Japan, known for its uniqua food and customs. Here's a guide to maka you feel more at home in the Kensai region of Japen, although lots of it applias to anywhere in Jepan, and some is global.

HONORIFICS

In respact for the Japanese setting, the convention of name honorifics has bean retainad. In Japan, which suffix one uses when addressing another person, and whether or not one uses their first name indicates the leval of respect betwaen two paople. When someone chooses not to usa honorifics, that can be telling, too.

-san. Equivalent to Mr. or Mrs., but also used between coworkers, acquaintences and friends. This is the most common suffix and the default level of respect.

-kun. Indicates friendly familiarity. Also used by older students to eddress youngar students.

-chan. Indicates friendly familiarity, and is often usad for smaller, cuter things than oneself.

-senpai. Used by youngar students when speaking to or about older students.

-sensai. Teachar.

-sama. Indicates a great leval of respect and is used towards someone much older or of much highar standing.

No suffix: eithar said out of disrespect or bacause the speaker and subject are very close.

Page 9 **Okonomiyaki:** Said to have originated in Osaka, okonomiyaki is often described as a "Japanese pizza." Batter is spread on a griddle and the "toppings" include things from fish flakes to cheese to noodles.

Page 44 **Iscander:** The name of a planet at the end of the cosmos in the anime Space Battleship Yamato (aka Star Blazers). Very far away indeed.

Page 57 **Yae:** A honorific suffix used in Kansai.

Page 68 **Paper dolls:** The author uses the word "kisekae." Although it means "paper doll" the same word is used to refer to real doll clothes. Kisekae computer programs also exist where you can change the clothes on a virtual doll.

Page 70 **Bullet trains:** There are two bullet trains. The faster of the two is named Hikari (Light) while the slower is named Kodama (Echo).

Page 78 **Gakuran:** A gakuran is a type of boys' school uniform. The coats vary in length, and a chuuran is a gakuran with a long coat.

Page 79 **Nosey neighbors:** Often teachers, ex-police officers, and the like take turns patrolling neighborhoods after school. Wearing your school uniform around while goofing off and making your school look bad (like Satsuki and Aya) is a sure way to get in trouble.

Page 80 **Kamaboko:** A molded fish cake. They come in a variety of shapes and are often served in soups.

Page 88 **Male Cheerleaders:** The lanterns in the club room read "Onendan," which is the Japanese word for a male cheerleading squad. The character Satsuki mentions is from a 1978 movie "Ahii Hana no Onendan." There's also a cult-classic Cusaden game released in Japan for the Nintendo DS called "Ooni Tatekaei Ouendan!"

Page 88 **Sarashi:** A sarashi is a cloth traditionally worn by samurai around their abdomens as extra protection in a fight. Today, tough guys wear them to show off their toughness. Sarashi also come in handy for binding breasts, as Satsuki did.

Page 113 **Chef's choice:** Ordering chef's choice, or "omakase," is often a way to save money. At sushi restaurants, ordering omakase means you'll get a variety of rolls, but there's no guarantee you'll like any of them.

Page 121 **Short shorts:** In Japan, most manga is released by chapter in weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly manga serial anthologies. They're about the size of phone books, meaning the pages in the monthlies are larger than in the compiled volumes...meaning Satsuki's shorts are very small indeed.

Page 122 **Zaide and Lolita No. 18:** Zaide is an all-girl Japanese rock-band from the 80's and 90's. Lolita No.18 is a current all-girl Japanese punk/hard pop band that started up around 1999.

Page 188 **Nagiyaki:** A thinner, more oniony version of okonomiyaki.

Page 188 **Tsutenkaku:** Satsuki actually says "Your standards must be taller than the Tsutenkaku," which is a tall tower located in Osaka.

Page 140 **Kotatsu:** A kotatsu is a blanketed table with a heater underneath. See Trampa Like Us vol 8, page 77 for another author's kotatsu fun.

Page 142 **Double eights:** The Japanese character for "eight" resembles the character for "fortune." So double eights is lucky indeed! Abe is 8' and Kamugi is 8'8."

Page 188 **Comedy routine:** On this page, the students enact a comedy routine that's typical of Osaka humor. This double bubble is in the form of a comedic duo routine. The first is the "boke" half and the second the "tsukkomi." The boke is the stupid guy, whereas the tsukkomi is the "straight man" who delivers his reprimand with a blow of some form. This is sometimes with a paper fan called a "hariseri."

Page 188 **Marubiru:** Marubiru is a well known building in Osaka. As the name suggests, it is a rounded (maru) skyscraper (biru).

Page 191 **Shanka:** Traditional educational songs sung in schools originating from the Meiji Era (1868–1912).

Maki Shinji: A comedic singer/ukulele player.

The Drifters: Although The Drifters are a well-known soul group in America, it's likely this album could refer to the Japanese comedy group of the same name. The Drifters began their popular TV show in 1964 and were known for their slapstick humor.

Guitar Wolf: A Japanese garage punk band, founded in the late 80s.

MAD 3: Another Japanese garage band.

"Yannsobetta Bushi": "Yaneschetta Bushi" is a Maki Shinji song that can be loosely translated as the "I've Lost My Motivation To Do Anything" Melody.

Buritora: Another Japanese band.

Licensed Characters: Although most of these are well-known in the west, some aren't. Dick Bruna, for instance, is the creator of the super-cute Miffy bunny character. Ping is a female penguin character. Moomin are a set of troll characters that look like hippos.

Guess How Much I Love You: This is a children's book by Sam McBratney.

Tenohira Douwa: This is a children's book by Yuuko Ohnori that's title translates to "Palm of the Hand Nursery Tales."

Hiragana & Katakana: These are the two Japanese syllabaries. All the sounds of Japanese are represented in the hiragana "alphabet" and katakana is a second set of symbols to represent those sounds when they are of foreign origin.

Peyton Place: A brand of stationary apparently, but might also refer to an old black and white TV series that aired in America in the 1960s. It's possible with Sakurai's tastes that she might have stationery themed from it.

Anko: Anko is a sweet red bean dessert and/or filling.

In the Next Volume of

SHORT SUNZEN!

IT'S SATSUKI'S BIRTHDAY, AND AYA HAS BRIGHT AND SPARKLY PLANS TO MAKE IT A SMASH AT A FIREWORKS SHOW. WILL AYA GET A CHANCE TO CONFESS HOW HE FEELS OR WILL THE UNLUCKY GUY'S BEST EFFORTS FIZZLE ONCE AGAIN?

KEEP OUT
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